



Hot Square



Man sought guns, grenades for Times Square attack, feds say

In this May 5, 2005 file photo taxicabs speed down Broadway near the intersection of Seventh Avenue and 42nd street in New York's Times Square.

Associated Press

By TOM HAYS
MICHAEL R. SISK
Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — A New

York City college student
accused of plotting a
terrorist attack on Times
Square spent months try-

ing to stockpile guns and
grenades, heaped praise
on the Islamic State group
and Osama bin Laden,

and feared being known
as the "Looney Tunes Terror-
ist" if his glasses fell off and
he couldn't shoot straight,

federal prosecutors said Fri-
day.

Continued on Page 3



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'I was wrong': Officer who shot 911 caller gets 12½ years

By STEVE KARNOWSKI

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A former Minneapolis police officer who shot and killed an unarmed woman who had called 911 said Friday he "knew in an instant that I was wrong" and apologized to her family, just moments before a judge brushed off a defense request for leniency and ordered him to prison for 12½ years.

The stiff sentence for Mohamed Noor capped a case that had been fraught by race from the start. Noor, a Somali American, shot Justine Ruszczyk Damond, a white, upper-middle-class dual citizen of the U.S. and Australia, when she approached his squad car in the alley behind her home in July 2017. Noor, 33, testified at trial that a loud bang on the squad car startled him and his partner and that he fired to protect his partner's life. But prosecutors criticized Noor for shooting without seeing a weapon or Damond's hands, and in April, a jury convicted



Former Minneapolis police officer Mohamed Noor reads a statement Friday, June 7, 2019, in Minneapolis, before being sentenced by Judge Kathryn Quaintance in the fatal shooting of Justine Ruszczyk Damond.

him of third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter.

Some people in Minneapolis' large Somali community and the larger black community argued the case was handled differently from police shootings across the country in which the victims were

black and the officers were white. And Noor's conviction came after Jeronimo Yanez, a Latino officer, was cleared of manslaughter in the 2016 death of black motorist Philando Castile in a nearby suburb.

Ahmed Nur carried a sign at the courthouse that had the words "Black, Muslim, Immigrant and Guilty" with boxes checked next to each word. He said he doubted a white officer would have been treated the same in Noor's situation. "There will be many cases after this where a white officer kills a black kid. It will happen," Nur said. "Then what are you gonna do? Because now we set a precedent saying if you kill someone, you will be prosecuted. You will go to jail. Are you going to do the same things for those cops?"

Friday's sentencing was marked by emotional statements from Noor, Damond's fiancée and his son, and her family in Australia, who said they continue to struggle with the loss of a kind and generous person who had filled their lives with joy and laughter. Damond was a 40-year-old life coach who was due to be married a month after her death.

Noor, his voice breaking several times as he spoke publicly about the shooting

for the first time, apologized repeatedly to Damond and her family for "taking the life of such a perfect person."

"I have lived with this and I'll continue to live with this," Noor said. "I caused this tragedy and it is my burden. I wish though that I could relieve that burden others feel from the loss that I caused. I cannot, and that is a troubling reality for me."

Noor said he was horrified to see Damond's body on the ground.

"The depth of my error has only increased from that moment on," he said. "Working to save her life and watching her slip away is a feeling I can't explain. I can say it leaves me sad, it leaves me numb, and a feeling of incredibly lonely. But none of that, none of those words, capture what it truly feels like."

Noor's attorneys had argued for a sentence as light as probation, but Judge Kathryn Quaintance swept that aside for a term identical to state sentencing guidelines.

"The act may have been based on a miscalculation, but it was an intentional act," Quaintance said. "Good people sometimes do bad things."

It's rare for police officers to be charged for on-duty shootings, let alone

convicted. Philip Stinson, a criminal justice professor at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, who has tracked the arrests from on-duty police shootings from 2005-2019, said only three other officers have been convicted of murder in that period, with an average sentence almost identical to Noor's.

Nineteen other officers convicted of manslaughter in that period had an average sentence of six years and two months, he said.

Noor is the only Minnesota officer to be convicted in an on-duty shooting in recent history.

Tom Plunkett, Noor's attorney, had asked Quaintance for a sentence as lenient as probation. He described Noor's desire to become a police officer in part to repay a debt he felt to the country that took him in long ago as a refugee.

"I have never stood up at sentencing with anyone my entire career that's done more or worked harder to be a good person, to earn the gifts he's been given," Plunkett said. "That's who Mohamed Noor is."

But prosecutor Amy Sweasy called for the recommended 12½ years. She noted that Damond had called 911 seeking help.

"And it was the defendant's responsibility when he encountered her in that alley to investigate and appreciate and discern that before he pulled the trigger," she said. "That was his responsibility, and his failure to do that is what resulted in the criminal act."

Justine's father, John Ruszczyk, in a statement read in court, asked for the maximum sentence and called her killing "an obscene act by an agent of the state."

Don Damond, Justine Damond's fiancée, said in court Friday that every time he sees the alley where she walked barefoot and in her pajamas toward the police car he relives the moment.

"In my mind I beg you to turn around," he said, speaking of a "lost future" of decades filled with "love, family, joy and laughter." □

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Continued from Front

Ashiquil Alam was arrested Thursday after arranging through an undercover agent to buy a pair of semi-automatic pistols with obliterated serial numbers, prosecutors said. Police Commissioner James O'Neill said that development was "a clear indicator of (Alam's) intent to move his plot forward."

Despite the grave allegations, the 22-year-old Alam is charged only with offenses related to the gun transaction. Alam, wearing blue jeans and a purple T-shirt, did not enter a plea at an initial appearance Friday in federal court in Brooklyn.

Defense attorney James Darrow argued that his client should be released on a \$200,000 bond since his client has a solid background and the charges he's facing so far don't include terrorism.

The defendant, a legal resident born in Bangladesh, moved to the U.S. as a child about 12 years ago, Darrow said. He has lived in Queens with his parents while attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice and working two jobs, the lawyer added.

But a federal magistrate ordered Alam held without bail after prosecutors argued that he was a danger to the community and a flight risk. Family members who attended the hearing left court without speaking to reporters.

Court documents describe months of plotting for an attack Alam told an undercover agent would make them "legends."

Alam spoke of plotting to kill civilians and law enforcement officers in Times

Square and targeting a senior government official in Washington, according to the documents.

He talked about wanting to "shoot down" gays, referring to them with a slur; using a "rocket launcher, like a huge one," to cause havoc at the World Trade Center; and obtaining an enhanced driver's license so he could walk onto a military base and "blow it up," the documents said.

Alam started speaking with the undercover agent about his plans in August and went with him on reconnaissance trips to Times Square and to a shooting range in Pennsylvania, the documents said.

Alam "repeatedly expressed interest in purchasing firearms and explosives for a terrorist attack in the New York City area" during conversations with the agent and spoke glowingly about past attacks on the city, the court documents said. Alam used his cellphone to take video of Times Square and "explained to the undercover that he was looking for potential targets," according to the documents.

Alam also allegedly discussed buying a silencer, ammunition and hand grenades, which he said could each "take out at least eight people."

In April, Alam told the undercover agent he was planning to get laser eye surgery so he wouldn't have to wear glasses during the planned attack, the documents said. "Let's say we are in an attack, right, say that my glasses fall off. What if I accidentally shoot you? You know what I mean?" Alam said in a re-

corded conversation, according to the documents. "Imagine what the news channel would call me, the Looney Tunes Terrorist or the Blind Terrorist."

Times Square, the heart of the Broadway theater district and packed with tourists day and night, has been a target of attacks before. In 2010, Faisal Shahzad, a U.S. citizen who had gotten explosives training in Pakistan, tried but failed to detonate a car bomb there. He was sentenced to life in prison. □



In this courtroom drawing, Ashiquil Alam, fifth from left, makes his initial court appearance and is arraigned at federal court in the Brooklyn Borough of New York, Friday, June 7, 2019.

Associated Press

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Michigan task force to evaluate Upper Peninsula energy needs

By JOHN FLESHER

Associated Press

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP)

— Gov. Gretchen Whitmer established a panel Friday to assess energy needs in Michigan's Upper Peninsula amid a dispute with the company whose pipeline plays a key role in supplying the region with propane.

Among the task force's jobs will be finding ways to get propane for the far-flung peninsula that don't involve Enbridge Inc.'s Line 5, which transports natural gas liquids used in the fuel, in addition to crude oil. The pipeline extends 645 miles (1,038 kilometers) between Superior, Wisconsin, and Sarnia, Ontario, crossing a large section of the Upper Peninsula.

A 4-mile (6.4-kilometer) segment divides into two pipes beneath the Straits of Mackinac, a channel that connects Lakes Huron and Michigan. That underwater section is the focus of a lengthy debate that boiled over this week as talks be-



This July 19, 2002, file photo, shows the Mackinac Bridge that spans the Straits of Mackinac from Mackinaw City, Mich.

Associated Press

tween Enbridge and Whitmer's administration over replacing it appeared to break down.

"Enbridge has a disappointing safety record in Michigan, and the dual pipelines that run through the Straits of Mackinac create an unacceptable risk of an oil spill by anchor strike or other means," Whitmer said.

"Such an event would be catastrophic for the Great Lakes and our economy, and would send energy costs skyrocketing for U.P. families."

About 25% of the peninsula's residents use propane for home heating and much of it is delivered through Line 5, she said. Enbridge says Line 5 delivers

65% of the U.P.'s propane and 55% of the propane used statewide.

The Canadian company has emphasized the pipeline's function as a carrier of the fuel in its battle against environmental groups pushing to shut it down.

Enbridge contends the 66-year-old pipeline is in good condition but has

offered to replace the underwater section with a new pipe that would be housed in a tunnel beneath the straits. The company pledges to cover the \$500 million cost and complete the project by early 2024.

Whitmer wants the underwater segment shut down even sooner. Enbridge says it can't move any faster and won't decommission the existing pipes before the new one is ready.

The company filed a lawsuit Thursday, asking the Michigan Court of Claims to rule on the legality of a tunnel construction deal it struck last year with former Republican Gov. Rick Snyder. Whitmer, a Democrat, has refused to carry out the agreement since Attorney General Dana Nessel said legislation authorizing it violated the state constitution. Enbridge said Friday the tunnel "is the best long-term opportunity to secure the energy needs of the state while making an already safe pipeline even safer." □

Lawyers for church leader say Attorney General tainted jury

By STEFANIE DAZIO

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP)

— Remarks by the California attorney general regarding the arrest of the leader of a Mexico-based mega-church charged with human trafficking and child rape may have tainted a potential jury, defense attorneys said Friday.

Attorney General Xavier Becerra said Thursday he believed there were more child sex abuse victims of La Luz del Mundo leader and self-proclaimed apostle Naasón Joaquín García and he feared the church's millions of followers could raise his \$50 million bail, believed to be the largest ever set in Los Angeles County.

Attorneys Ken Rosenfeld and Allen Sawyer said Joaquín García and his family are paying their legal fees and the evangelical church's finances are not involved. The lawyers spoke Friday at a bilingual press conference outside



The exterior of a La Luz del Mundo church branch is seen Thursday, June 6, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

an east Los Angeles temple of La Luz del Mundo, with Joaquín García's family and church followers standing beside them, and called their client innocent of "false charges."

Joaquín García and two co-defendants were arrest-

ed in California this week, and a fourth remains at large. They face a 26-count felony complaint that alleges crimes including child rape, statutory rape, molestation, human trafficking, child pornography and extortion.

"Yesterday was a sad day for the criminal justice system in California," Sawyer said, noting that Becerra had called Joaquín García "demented." "How is Mr. García's supposed to get a fair trial?"

Bibiana Ochoa, 42, a mem-

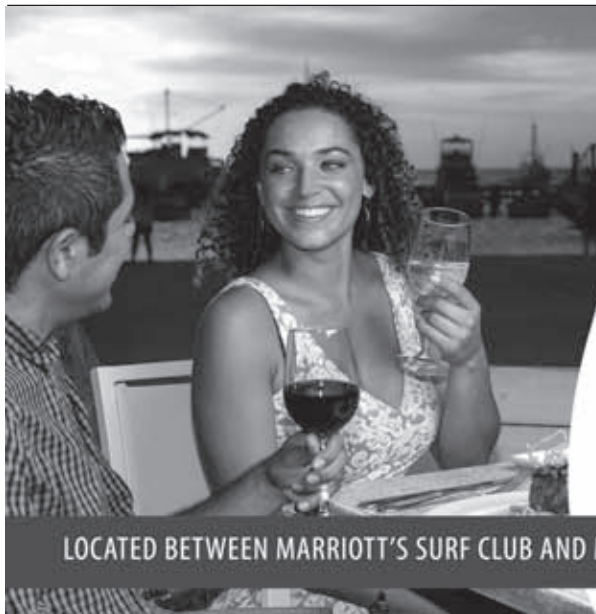
ber of the church from Salt Lake City, said Friday the "false allegations" have caused La Luz del Mundo "a deep sadness."

"We will return the apostle to his flock," Rosenfeld said. "Five million faithful stand behind a wrongly accused man."

The three defendants in custody made their first court appearance in Los Angeles on Wednesday. They did not enter pleas. They will return to court Monday for arraignment.

Joaquín García was originally represented by Dmitry Gorin and Alan Eisner. But he has since changed his lawyers to Rosenfeld and Sawyer, who said the other lawyers only handled the first appearance.

The Sacramento Business Journal called Rosenfeld "one of the most successful criminal defense lawyers in the state" last month after he defended "tax lady" Roni Deutch from a lawsuit filed by former Attorney General Jerry Brown. □



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Police use of DNA leads to backlash, changes to big database

By TERRY SPENCER

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)

— After California detectives used a popular online DNA database to track down a suspect in the decades-old Golden State Killer slayings, other police agencies quickly adopted the same technique.

Since that case was cracked last year, at least 50 other killings and rapes have been solved nationwide by using partial DNA matches to find suspects' relatives, whose identities can lead to arrests. But complaints about invasion of privacy have produced a backlash, leading the Florida-based database known as GEDmatch to change its policies.

The nonprofit website's previous practice was to permit police to use its database only to solve homicides and sexual assaults. But its operators granted a Utah police department an exception to find the assailant who choked unconscious a 71-year-old woman practicing the organ alone in church. The assailant's DNA profile led detectives to the great-uncle of a 17-year-old boy. The teen's DNA matched the attacker's, and he was arrested.

GEDmatch soon updated its policy to establish that law enforcement only gets matches from the DNA profiles of users who have given permission. That closed off more than a million profiles. More than 50,000 users agreed to share their information — a figure that the company says is growing. The 95% reduction in GED-



In this May 16, 2019 photo, Christopher Tapp hugs Carol Dodge at the conclusion of a press conference where the Idaho Falls Police announced that Brian Leigh Dripps had been arrested for the murder of Carol's daughter Angie in 1996, in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Associated Press

match profiles available to police will dramatically reduce the number of hits detectives get and make it more difficult to solve crimes, said David Foran, a forensics biology professor at Michigan State University.

"Law enforcement needs these big databases for the chance that someone might be in there," Foran said. "Now that they are requiring people to opt in, my guess is that database is going to become very small."

Site co-founder Curtis Rogers said the change was being discussed before the Utah case. He said users received emails about the

May decision, encouraging them to opt-in to police searches.

"We strongly support law enforcement," Rogers wrote in an email. "The use of genetic genealogy for providing leads in violent crimes has been called the biggest crime-fighting breakthrough in decades. Its incredible success to date has been due almost entirely to the GEDmatch database."

Such websites are popular with people researching their family trees. They upload DNA profiles obtained from genetic testing companies. Then GEDmatch's computers compare the results and identify possi-

ble long-lost cousins, aunts and others. Adoptees have found their birth families.

Police use the databases in hopes of identifying the relative of a killer or rapist. They upload a profile taken from DNA left by a possible perpetrator. If they get a partial hit, they examine that person's relatives to find potential suspects. In a serial rape case, for example, detectives look for a male relative who lived near the attacks at the time. If they find someone, they surreptitiously obtain DNA samples from the suspect's trash or something he touched.

The American Civil Liberties Union and other critics

say granting law enforcement exceptions that violate a website's policies is a slippery slope. They also believe broad genetic searches violate suspects' constitutional rights.

While many people instinctively support the technique if used to catch serial killers or rapists, they might feel differently about their DNA profiles being analyzed to pursue burglars and shoplifters. The ACLU wants Congress and state legislatures to impose restrictions.

A poll conducted last year by The Associated Press and the NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that most Americans do not want law enforcement blindly searching genetic databases. Half of those polled said such data should be shared with law enforcement only with the consent of the person tested. Thirteen percent said law enforcement should not use that information at all. About 30% said it should be shared without consent. Carol Dodge waited more than two decades before a suspect was arrested last month in the 1996 slaying of her 18-year-old daughter, Angie, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Detectives identified him using GEDmatch. Dodge said the suspect, who police say confessed, was not on investigators' radar and would never have been identified otherwise.

"People who are opposed to this have never lost someone," Dodge said. "People who have a clean conscience shouldn't have a problem with it." □

Central US flooding hits recreation, tourism industries

By HANNAH GRABENSTEIN
JIM SALTER

Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — As the waters of the swollen Arkansas River rose in Little Rock, and threatened to reach record heights, Samuel Ellis had to make the tough, but prudent, decision to indefinitely shutter kayak rentals from his tour company.

Weeks of flooding along the Arkansas and Mississippi rivers has hit tourism and recreation businesses in the central U.S., whether or not they're directly dependent on the river.

Three years ago, Ellis' new kayak and bike rental and tour company had three kayaks for rental; now he says he often has 25 people at a time paddling down the usually gentle river.

Ellis says waters tend to be higher in June anyway, but around Memorial Day this year, Ellis had to temporarily close down both his downtown riverfront boathouse



Kevin Jones, right, assistant chief of the Prairie du Rocher Volunteer Fire Department catches a sandbag from firefighter Devin Godier as he joins Sean Koch, left, to add sandbags to a sand boil seeping through the Prairie du Rocher Levee along the Mississippi River on Thursday, June 6, 2019.

Associated Press

and his typically more protected location slightly further upstream in anticipation of historic flooding. His company, Rock Town River Outfitters, also rents bikes, but the river has spilled over onto trails along its banks so

tours have been restricted to dry areas downtown.

"It has hit me pretty hard this month.

I'm hoping the water will go down fast so that we can at least have our bike trail back," Ellis said.

Record flooding has hit much of the south and central U.S. this spring, as higher than average rains have strained dams and aging levees.

About a quarter of the businesses surveyed by the

Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism reported an impact by the flood, said deputy director Kristine Puckett.

The department has been working to combat fears that the entire state is underwater and is reminding tourists and residents alike that the Natural State has 50 state parks, as well as dozens of towns and cities, unaffected by flooding.

For some Mississippi River towns that rely heavily on tourists, the perception of the flood is as bad as the high water itself.

Kimmswick, Missouri, just south of St. Louis, has only 170 residents but draws hundreds of thousands of visitors annually to small restaurants, quaint shops and two huge festivals. One of them, the Strawberry Festival scheduled for last week, had to be canceled due to the flooding.

The town itself is dry, thanks to a levee reinforced with sandbags. □

Capitol flag flap in Wisconsin over gay pride rainbow

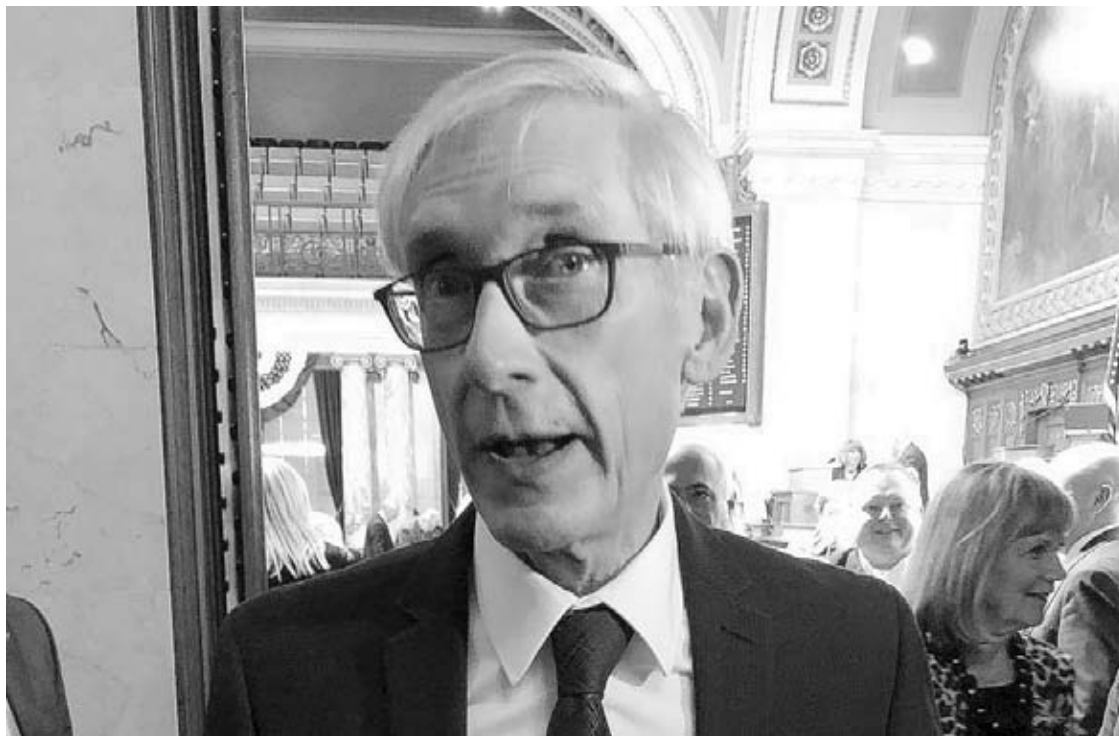
By SCOTT BAUER

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Flying a gay pride rainbow flag over the Wisconsin state Capitol for the first time Friday drew backlash from conservative Republican lawmakers who said it was divisive, while Democrats hailed it as a sign of inclusivity.

The flag flap erupted after Democratic Gov. Tony Evers ordered the raising of the flag to recognize June as "Pride Month." The move drew a fast rebuke from state Rep. Scott Allen, who tweeted, "Is this any more appropriate than erecting the Christian flag over the Capitol?"

Allen, who describes himself on Twitter as "Child of God/Family Man," said in a follow-up message to The Associated Press that the rainbow flag "advocates a behavior or lifestyle that some Wisconsin residents may not condone. Therefore, it is divisive."

Democrats praised the raising of the flag, includ-



In this Tuesday, April 9, 2019, file photo, Wisconsin Democratic Gov. Tony Evers talks to reporters during a lame-duck legislative session in Madison, Wisconsin.

Associated Press

ing Democratic state Sen. Tim Carpenter, one of five openly gay state lawmakers.

"This is a very welcoming sign to many of us and it signifies a new direction for Wisconsin," Carpenter said

in a statement thanking Evers. "We are showing that we are a welcoming and inclusive state and that means a great deal."

Dozens of people stood outside the Capitol's east wing Friday afternoon and

cheered as the flag was raised on a pole just below the U.S. and Wisconsin state flag. Republican state Sen. David Craig joined Allen in criticizing the move.

"The US and Wisconsin flags are flown over us as unify-

ing symbols for all Wisconsinites," Craig tweeted. "The governor's action today is in no doubt a statement to advance a cause. The only cause that the Capitol flags should represent is fifty states united in one republic."

Evers, who defeated conservative Gov. Scott Walker in November, said in an executive order that the rainbow flag has become an important symbol for the LGBTQ community and publicly displaying it "sends a clear and unequivocal message" that in Wisconsin "everyone can live without fear of prosecution, judgment, or discrimination."

The flag was flying above where the governor's office is located in the Capitol. Evers also authorizes other state government buildings and any jurisdiction of the state to fly the flag in June. The governor has the sole authority to decide what flags fly over the Capitol, said Evers spokeswoman Melissa Baldauff. □



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Court lifts injunction blocking Keystone XL oil pipeline

By MATT VOLZ
Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — An appeals court has lifted a judge's injunction that blocked construction of the Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada to the U.S., but the developer has said it's too late to begin work this year and environmental groups vowed to keep fighting it.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Thursday ordered dismissal of the lawsuit by environmental and Native American groups, saying President Donald Trump had revoked a 2017 permit allowing the \$8 billion pipeline to be built.

Trump later issued a new permit, and the appellate judges agreed with Justice Department attorneys who say that nullifies the legal challenge involving envi-



In this Nov. 6, 2015 file photo, a TransCanada's Keystone pipeline facility is seen in Hardisty, Alberta.

ronmental impacts.

The pipeline would ship up to 830,000 barrels (35 million gallons) of crude oil daily from the tar sands of Alberta through Montana,

South Dakota and Nebraska, where it would tie in to existing pipelines to carry the crude to U.S. refineries. The ruling Thursday was a victory for TC Energy, a Cal-

gary, Alberta-based company that wants to build the line, though company officials have said it already missed the 2019 construction season because of

court delays.

"We are pleased with the ruling," TC Energy spokesman Matthew John said. "We look forward to advancing the project."

John did not respond to questions on whether the ruling would change the construction schedule.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs accuse Trump of trying to get around court rulings by issuing the new permit, which they say also is flawed. They have filed another, ongoing lawsuit to block the new presidential permit.

Attorney Stephan Volker, who represents the Indigenous Environmental Network and North Coast Rivers Alliance, said he would request another judge's order to block the project if he thought there was a chance of construction beginning immediately. □

Associated Press

Jury selection set for Dallas police officer's murder trial

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Jury selection in the murder trial of a white former Dallas police officer will begin on the anniversary of the day she fatally shot an unarmed black neighbor in his own apartment.

State District Judge Tammy Kemp and the attorneys decided Thursday to begin interviewing jurors for Amber Guyger's trial on Sept. 6, one year after 26-year-old Botham Jean's death. Testimony begins Sept. 23. Guyger told investigators that when she entered Jean's apartment, which was directly above hers, she mistook it for her own. She was fired following the incident.

During the 12-minute hear-

ing, Kemp also quizzed the lawyers about the leaking of Guyger's 911 call after the shooting despite a gag order.

"I really was dismayed to find out that someone lacked the integrity and fortitude to honor the gag order," Kemp said.

Prosecutor Jason Hermus and defense attorney Robert Rogers said they didn't leak the audio and that they didn't know who did. Dallas police are investigating whether any of their officers released the recording, Hermus said. On the call, Guyger can be heard apologizing to Jean, who was a 26-year-old native of the Caribbean island of St. Lucia. Jean was a graduate of Harding University

in Searcy, Arkansas who worked in Dallas for an accounting and consulting firm.

"We want this case to be tried in the courtroom. We want this case to be tried in Dallas County, and the frustrating part right now, we feel that strategically, people are leaking this type of information now a couple of months before the trial for the mere purpose of trying to taint the jury pool," said Daryl K. Washington, who is the civil attorney for Jean's family.

A lawsuit that Jean's family filed against the city and Guyger is pending in federal court. It is doubtful the civil case will move forward until the criminal case is decided. □



Former Dallas police Officer Amber Guyger makes a court appearance at the Frank Crowley Courts Building in Dallas on Thursday, June 6, 2019.

Associated Press

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Undone by Brexit, May steps down as Conservative leader

By JILL LAWLESS
 Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Theresa May's time as Conservative Party leader ended Friday, not with a bang but a whimper.

May, who announced her departure two weeks ago after her career was undone by the Brexit mess, formally stepped down in a private exchange of letters with the party, leaving almost a dozen Conservative contenders fighting to replace her and resume the stalled quest to lead Britain out of the European Union. The second female prime minister in British history spent the day quietly in her home constituency west of London, rather than the prime minister's residence at 10 Downing St.

May will remain as acting leader and prime minister for a few weeks while the party picks a successor, who will become the next prime minister.

Conservative lawmakers will hold a secret ballot on Thursday, with any candidates who don't get at least 5% dropping out.



In this Friday, June 9, 2017 file photo Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May listens as the declaration at her constituency is made for in the general election in Maidenhead, England.

Associated Press

Further rounds will be held the following week until the field is narrowed to two.

The final two candidates will meet in a runoff that will be decided in a mail-in vote by the country's approximately 160,000 Conservative Party members. The winner will be announced the week of July 22.

So far, 11 Conservative lawmakers are running to replace May, vowing to succeed where she failed and renegotiate Britain's deal to pull out of the EU.

There's just one problem: The EU says that's not going to happen.

"There will be no renegotiation," European Commis-

sion President Jean-Claude Juncker said — not for the first time — last week.

On Friday, Juncker lamented: "Everyone understands English, but nobody understands England."

May, 62, has seen her three years atop party and country defined, and ultimately destroyed, by Brexit.

The Oxford-educated daughter of a rural vicar, she was picked as party leader in July 2016, weeks after Britain voted 52% to 48% to leave the EU and her predecessor, David Cameron, resigned.

After many months of negotiations, the 27 other EU nations finally agreed late last year to a detailed withdrawal plan with May's government.

But in one humiliation after another for May, the plan has been rejected three times by Parliament, doomed by both lawmakers who wanted more of a clean break and those who wanted a softer Brexit that kept close economic ties to the bloc.

With British politicians deadlocked, departure day was postponed from March 29 to Oct. 31, and many of May's Conservative colleagues decided she and her plan had to go.

The impasse has transformed the U.K.'s political map. May's Conservatives and the main opposition Labour Party are both fractured over how to leave the EU.

ICC prosecutor asks to appeal rejection of Afghanistan probe



In this file photo dated Tuesday Aug. 28, 2018, Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda at the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague, Netherlands.

Associated Press

By MIKE CORDER

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The International Criminal Court's prosecutor on Friday sought to appeal the court's rejection of an investigation into crimes linked to the conflict in Afghanistan by rebels, gov-

ernment security services and American forces.

In a 17-page document seeking clearance to file an appeal, Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said an appeal could clarify crucial issues raised by judges who rejected her request to

open an investigation, and would "benefit the court in its work as a whole."

A panel of pre-trial judges in April rejected the proposed investigation, saying it would not be in the interests of justice because an investigation and prosecution were unlikely to be successful as those targeted — including the United States, Afghan authorities and the Taliban — are not expected to cooperate.

Bensouda said that such an argument is contrary to the reason the court was established — to prosecute grave crimes when national authorities are unwilling or unable to do so.

"While the Prosecution is very mindful of the challenges in pursuing investigations or prosecutions in circumstances when co-operation is limited ... it remains the case that these

challenges are part of its statutory responsibility," the prosecutor wrote.

Rights groups in April slammed the decision to reject an investigation as a blow to Afghan victims seeking justice.

Patrick Baudouin, president of the International Federation for Human Rights, called the rejection a "dark day for justice" and a "shocking decision, which is based on a deeply flawed reasoning."

Among issues Bensouda wants to appeal is whether the pre-trial judges even have the power to reject her request based on their determination of the interests of justice.

Bensouda wrote that her request for an appeal is not simply disagreeing with the rejection, "but rather represents a legal issue of constitutional importance for the

continued practice of the Court as a whole."

Bensouda's November 2017 request to open an investigation said there is information that members of the U.S. military and intelligence agencies "committed acts of torture, cruel treatment, outrages upon personal dignity, rape and sexual violence against conflict-related detainees in Afghanistan and other locations, principally in the 2003-2004 period."

She also said that the Taliban and other insurgent groups have killed more than 17,000 civilians since 2009, including some 7,000 targeted killings.

She further alleged that Afghan security forces have tortured prisoners at government detention centers. If the court allows Bensouda to appeal, the process will likely take months.

Ethiopian PM visits Sudan in bid to mediate crisis

By **BASSAM HATOUM**
NOHA ELHENNAWY
CARA ANNA
Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Ethiopia's prime minister met with Sudan's ruling generals and protest leaders on Friday in a bid to revive negotiations amid a crackdown on demonstrations that has killed more than 100 people since Monday. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, a young reformist who assumed office a year ago, has been at the center of high-profile diplomatic efforts in the Horn of Africa region, including a surprise restoration of diplomatic ties between Ethiopia and rival Eritrea. He arrived in Sudan as the crisis following the overthrow of longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir turned increasingly violent. The military removed al-Bashir from power in April after months of mass protests, but has resisted the protesters' demands for an immediate handover of power to civilians. On Monday, security forces violently dispersed the main sit-in outside the military



Ethiopia's prime minister Abiy Ahmed, center, arrives in Khartoum, Sudan on Friday, June 7, 2019, to try and mediate between the ruling military and the country's protest leaders amid an army crackdown that has killed over 100 people this week.

Associated Press

headquarters in Khartoum, and similar clashes have erupted in other cities and towns. The African Union, based in Ethiopia, suspended Sudan on Thursday and threatened "punitive sanctions" if the military doesn't quickly relinquish power. Abiy met Friday with Gen.

Abdel-Fattah Burhan, the head of the ruling council, as well as protest leaders. In a phone interview with Saudi-owned satellite channel al-Arabiya, protest leader Gaafar Hassan declined to discuss the meeting in detail, saying a news conference would be held later, but ruled out any "di-

rect" or "indirect" talks with the military. "The (military) council has lost its political as well as its ethical legitimacy and we cannot deal with it, but we call for its ouster," he said. There was no immediate comment from the military council or the Ethiopian prime minister.

The Sudan Doctors' Central Committee, one of the protest groups, said at least 113 people have been killed and more than 500 wounded since Monday. It says more than 40 bodies have been pulled from the Nile River in Khartoum and taken away by security forces since the violence erupted. The protesters have blamed much of the violence on the Rapid Support Forces, a paramilitary group that grew out of the notorious Janjaweed militias mobilized by al-Bashir during the Darfur conflict in the early 2000s. The militias were widely accused of crimes against humanity, and al-Bashir — now jailed in Khartoum — was indicted on charges of genocide. The head of the RSF, Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo — better known as Hemedti — was "conspicuously absent" in photos shared by the Ethiopian prime minister's office, according to Rashid Abdi, a former project director with the International Crisis Group. □

Protests in Albania: Its democracy and EU future at stake

By **LLAZAR SEMINI**
Associated Press

TIRANA, Albania (AP) — Albania's opposition parties hold their latest anti-government protest Saturday with a strong likelihood that it will turn violent, dealing another blow to the country's shrinking hopes that the European Union will agree to launch full membership negotiations with the ex-communist nation. Some 10,000 people are expected at the protest in Tirana that will demand the appointment of a transitional Cabinet, followed by an early election. The center-right opposition led by Lulzim Basha has been holding protests since mid-February, accusing the leftist government of links to organized crime and vote rigging. The government denies all the claims. Socialist Prime Minister Edi Rama has re-

peatedly called for an unconditional dialogue, saying protests have hurt the country's image. Protests in the past have turned hostile, with opposition supporters showering police officers with firebombs while police responded with tear gas. Injuries have been reported on both sides and scores of protesters have been arrested or charged with violent attacks. Basha has vowed to continue, however, saying the protests do not "differ from those in France, Italy or other Western countries." Opposition lawmakers have also relinquished their seats in Parliament — where the government holds a comfortable majority — and the opposition is boycotting the June 30 municipal elections and is threatening to prevent them taking place.

"In democracy there are no elections without the opposition. There is no democracy without pluralism," Basha said in an emailed interview with The Associated Press. "Prime Minister Rama has under his control all powers: executive, legislative and justice. He has the big media and the business under his control," Basha added. Aleksander Cipa, an independent analyst, says the opposition's main goal is "existential." "Investing in an aggressive protest and the corrosive acts against the prime minister is the only possibility for the opposition's further existence," he said. The United States, the European Union and international organizations have denounced the opposition for relinquishing its parliamentary seats, repeatedly calling on them to sit down for talks and to avoid vio-



A protester gestures in front of a police formation guarding Prime Minister's office, in Tirana, Sunday June 2, 2019.

Associated Press

lence in protests. The opposition has hardly heeded the call. In late June Brussels decides whether to launch full membership negotiations with Albania. More violence would be "a retrograde act threatening the country's expected positive answer from the EU," Cipa said.

In the end, irregular municipal elections or violence would be another tool in the hands of hard-liners in the EU member countries trying to prevent the launch of membership negotiations with Albania. Albania would miss another train toward Europe, not for the first time since the end of Communism. □

Syria uses familiar tactic in rebel Idlib: Bombing civilians

By SARAH EL DEEB

BEIRUT (AP) — The father could hardly bear seeing his 18-month-old daughter's panic every time the Syrian government warplanes flew over their home. Every day for a month, she ran to him to hide in his arms, tearful and breathless.

Abdurrahim had refused to flee his hometown throughout years of violence, and he was determined to hold out through the new, intensified government offensive launched in April against Idlib province, the last significant territory held by Syria's rebels.

But now he had his first child, Ruwaida, to think about.

"That look on my daughter's face ... is really what is going to kill me," said the 25-year-old Abdurrahim, who asked that his last name not be published for security reasons.

His determination collapsed when an airstrike on May 30 pulverized the house next door, crushing to death three children, one of them a girl Ruwaida's age. He whisked his daughter and wife to a nearby village, hoping it would be safe.

The Syrian government and its Russian backer have turned to a familiar tactic in their assault on Idlib — relentlessly and systematically striking residential areas, hospitals, markets, crops and infrastructure to break the will of the population and pressure people to flee, according to observers, rights groups and residents.

It's a tried-and-true method that worked for President Bashar Assad's forces in their previous, destructive campaigns that retook the city of Aleppo in 2016 and other strategic territories.

Striking civilians with impunity has been so characteristic of the 8-year civil war that it rarely even raises much international outrage or attention. Monitors say the pattern of strikes clearly show that, far from being collateral damage, civilian homes, businesses and infrastructure are intentional targets of the government.



In this May 3, 2019 file photo, provided by the Syrian Civil Defense White Helmets, which has been authenticated based on its contents and other AP reporting, shows smoke rising after Syrian government and Russian airstrikes that hit the town of al-Habeet, southern Idlib, Syria.

Associated Press

"Even wars have rules," said Misty Buswell, the Middle East advocacy director for the International Rescue Committee, adding that two hospitals it supports were hit by airstrikes. In this war, she said, attacks on civilians "have happened with absolute impunity."

The impact has been brutal in the rebel enclave centered on Idlib in northwest Syria on the border with Turkey. Some 3 million people are bottled up there, more than half of them displaced from other parts of the country recaptured by the military.

The Syrian military launched its assault in April, backed by government and Russian airstrikes. It has focused on the enclave's southern edges, taking a few villages and bombarding deeper into Idlib.

Bombing "targets everything: bakeries, hospitals, markets. The aim is to stop all services to civilians. Everything," said Wasel Aljirk, a surgeon whose hospital was blasted by strikes.

Five weeks of violence has driven nearly 300,000 people from their homes. Many are living under olive trees, in tents or unfinished buildings, cramming in overcrowded shared rooms. Aid groups fear that figure

could spiral to 700,000 displaced.

More than 300 civilians have been killed, according to opposition activists and war monitors. At least 61 children are among those killed since April, according to Save the Children, though Idlib health authorities put the figure at 75 children killed in May alone.

Diana Samaan, a Syria researcher with Amnesty International, said homes are targeted as a "tactic to pressure civilians to succumb." Sara Kayyali, a Syria researcher with Human Rights Watch, said her group and others have "documented enough strikes on residential buildings to at least indicate an appearance of unlawful approach."

Hospitals and clinics have been systematically bombarded, some of them hit more than once even though the U.N. identifies many to the Syrian government as health centers.

At least 32 hospitals and health facilities around the enclave have been put out of service, either because they were struck or suspended their operations for fear of being hit, Mustafa al-Eido from the Idlib health authority said Thursday.

The south Idlib region most directly under attack does not have a single health facility left, after all 16 there were hit by airstrikes or stopped working, al-Eido said. That has put an extra burden on those in other parts of Idlib and forced long journeys on patients, said Mohamad Katoub of the Syrian-American Medical Society, which supports services in the area.

Bombings are so frequent that many hospitals are built buried into the sides of hills for protection, known as "cave hospitals."

One such cave hospital, a major trauma facility in southern Idlib, called Pulse of Life, was hit by airstrikes three times in the past two years, each time moving to a new location. Every month, it served 5,000 patients and performed 500 operations.

The fourth and final strike came May 5 when at least seven rockets pounded the hospital. Direct hits raised massive clouds of earth, gravel, stone and concrete dust into the sky, seen in video posted online.

No one was hurt because the staff had evacuated after being tipped of an imminent strike, said Aljirk, the surgeon. But Pulse of Life was virtually destroyed

and has not been able to reopen since.

In general, the government has a blanket justification for indiscriminate bombing of rebel-held areas, describing the entire population as "terrorists and their families." It further backs its pretext by pointing to the fact that al-Qaida linked militants and other jihadi groups have come to dominate the Idlib enclave, which first fell under rebel control in 2015.

Najat Rochdi, senior humanitarian adviser to the United Nations Special Envoy for Syria, said in a statement Friday that combatting terrorism "does not absolve" any party and warned that the attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure may amount to war crimes.

"We have a collective responsibility to the victims of this conflict, many of whom are too young to try to make sense of this senseless war," she said.

Physicians for Human Rights has said the war in Syria has seen the most widespread and systematic assault on health care documented in the world to date. It has counted at least 566 attacks on health facilities since the start of the war, mostly by government forces or their allies.

The strike on the house of Abdurrahim's neighbors, the Qasheet family, was part of a major barrage that rained down on residential areas on the town of Maarat al-Numan, destroying six houses in a single day.

Dust was still in the air when the team of first responders known as the White Helmets arrived, said Obada Zakra, a leader of the team. They first focused on survivors in a nearby house while neighbors worked to dig out the Qasheets' two-story home. The father, mother and one son emerged alive though a gap in the debris. Another son was pulled out hours later, bloodied but alive.

But the building was pancaked on top of 14-year old Abboudi Qasheet, his two sisters, and younger brother. □

Japan plans carbon emission cuts, more nuclear energy

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan is calling for further efforts to cut its carbon emissions by promoting renewable energy while also pushing nuclear power despite its 2011 Fukushima nuclear plant disaster.

An energy policy paper, adopted by the Cabinet on Friday, said Japan faces the urgent task of reducing carbon emissions by utilities that rely heavily on fossil fuel plants to make up for shortages of cleaner nuclear energy. The call comes as nuclear reactors around Japan are slowly being restarted — despite lingering anti-nuclear sentiment since the Fukushima crisis — after being shut down to meet tougher safety standards.

Japan wants renewable energy's share in 2030 to grow to 22-24% of the country's power supply from 16%, while pushing nuclear energy to 20-22% from just



In this Nov. 12, 2011, file photo, the Unit 4 reactor building of the crippled Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power station is seen through a bus window in Okuma, Japan.

Associated Press

3% in 2017. The report said the cost of renewables also needs to be reduced.

Japanese utilities rely more heavily on fossil fuel plants than those in the U.S. and Europe, the paper said. Coal and natural gas ac-

counted for 74% of Japan's energy supply.

Nuclear energy made up about one-third of Japan's energy supply before 2011, when a massive earthquake and tsunami destroyed the Fukushima Dai-

ichi nuclear plant's cooling systems, sending three of its reactors into meltdowns.

Despite the government's renewed ambitions for nuclear power, reactor restarts are proceeding slowly as nuclear regulators

spend more time on inspections under the stricter post-Fukushima standards, while utility companies have opted to scrap aged reactors instead of investing in additional safety measures.

Nearly half of the 54 reactors in Japan have been designated for decommissioning, and only nine have resumed operation since the accident.

The slow reactor restarts have added to Japan's large plutonium stockpile from spent fuel. Japan has resorted to reducing the 47-ton stockpile by burning plutonium in conventional reactors after the country's fuel recycling program stalled. The plutonium is currently enough to produce about 6,000 atomic bombs. But the amount is not decreasing, and experts are now calling for more drastic steps to reduce the stockpile amid criticism that it makes Tokyo's calls for nuclear non-proliferation less credible. □

Putin says US unilateralism hurts global trade, sows chaos

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

IRINA TITOVA

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP)

— Russian President Vladimir Putin has criticized the United States for using pressure and sanctions to maintain its economic supremacy, saying it spawns chaos in global affairs.

Speaking Friday at an investment forum in St. Petersburg, Putin said the U.S. attempt to "spread its jurisdiction to the entire world" challenges the global order.

He said globalization "becomes a parody of itself when common international rules are replaced with laws, administrative and judicial mechanisms of one country or a group of countries."

Flanked by Chinese President Xi Jinping at the forum's panel, Putin said the U.S. action against Chinese telecom giant Huawei represented an attempt to "blatantly squeeze it out of the global market."



Russian President Vladimir Putin addresses the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia, Friday, June 7, 2019.

Associated Press

It is, he said, "the first technological war of the digital era."

Putin warned that the "fragmentation of the global economic space, the policy of unrestrained political egoism" paves the way to "endless conflicts and trade

Wars ... fights without rules between all."

The Russian leader accused the U.S. of turning the dollar into an "instrument of pressure," undermining trust in the U.S. dollar, the world's major reserve currency.

He also criticized U.S. at-

tempts to hamper the construction of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline intended to carry Russian natural gas to Germany and further on in Europe, saying it reflects the U.S. desire to win advantages for itself.

Putin hailed Russia-China

relations, saying that their cooperation in the global arena is "a major factor of stability in global affairs."

He emphasized that "we aren't creating a military union and we aren't working against anyone," adding that Moscow remains open to expanding ties with the European Union and the United States.

Xi said Russia and China would coordinate their efforts in the energy sphere more closely.

The Chinese leader noted that the current global trade system needs fine-tuning but spoke strongly against protectionism, warning that globalization can't be stopped.

Xi said that despite trade disputes between China and the U.S. they are closely interdependent and neither side wants to disrupt ties. "Neither we, nor our American partners are interested in that," Xi said. "I'm sure that my friend, President Trump, isn't interested in that either." □

Leader or killer? A day with 'Barbecue' in Haiti's capital

By DÁNICA COTO

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— He's known as Barbecue, an ex-cop suspected in the massacre of dozens of men, women and children in the Haitian capital — and a hero in his neighborhood, followed by crowds of adoring residents who consider him their protector.

Authorities say men like Barbecue, whose real name is Jimmy Cherizier, are increasingly taking charge of areas across Haiti as public safety disintegrates and the government loses its grip on a country facing one of its most violent periods in recent history despite a 15-year U.N. peacekeeping operation there.

"Gangs are multiplying because the government is weak," said Haiti's attorney general, Paul Eronce Villard, who estimates there are more than 50 gangs now operating in the country. "It's a real challenge for police."

Armed gangs, sometimes with links to corrupt police and believed financed by local politicians and businessmen, battle each other for control of Port-au-Prince's lucrative outdoor markets, the source of a steady flow of cash from so-called "protection" fees from vendors, as well as drug deals and arms sales. Among them is Base Delmas 6, which local human rights groups say is led by Cherizier in Port-au-Prince's impoverished Lower Delmas neighborhood. Cherizier denies that, describing himself as a community leader who doles out cash to residents when they're in need, clears garbage from the streets and protects the neighborhood from rival gangs.

He's also a suspect in the country's worst massacre in years, accused by police and witnesses of helping to orchestrate the slaughter of up to 59 men, women and children in the nearby neighborhood of La Saline last year.

But despite being named in a police report and in two local human rights groups'



In this May 24, 2019, photo, Barbecue, whose real name is Jimmy Cherizier, sits at his house during an interview with AP, in Lower Delmas, a district of Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Associated Press

investigations of the killings, Cherizier, remains not only free, but the most powerful man in Lower Delmas.

A police badge tattooed on his right forearm and a 9 mm pistol in his waistband, the 42-year-old Cherizier sleeps during the day and spends nights scanning the streets for enemies. He enforces a nightly curfew and has a small army of look-outs who bang on drums to alert residents that rival gangs are approaching. On a recent Saturday, Cherizier ducked through purple and yellow sheets hung out to dry in narrow alleyways and sidestepped rusty wheelbarrows filled with sugarcane and women doing their wash in buckets. The smell of marijuana and raw sewage filled the air.

Swigging from a bottle of Barbancourt rum, he later pointed at a wide canal that residents use as a toilet and a shuttered medical clinic, then noted the lack of schools.

"What do you see?" he asked as he gestured at a crowd of supporters gathered around him. "It's misery. None of these kids have a future. In 10 years from now, they will have guns in their hands."

Another suspected gang

leader, Joel Noel, calls himself the community leader of La Saline, where the massacre began on Nov. 13 as men armed with guns and machetes broke into homes, killing and torturing dozens and raping several women. Victims' bodies were then burned or cut into pieces and thrown to pigs and dogs. Among the dead was a 4-year-old girl shot in the head in her mother's arms, according to authorities.

An internal investigative report by the Haitian police Bureau of Criminal Affairs, obtained by The Associated Press, has called for the arrest of Cherizier and 68 others on charges including murder and rape. It is now being reviewed by a judge, but more than six months after the carnage none have been charged. Cherizier is implicated in two killings in the report: One by a woman who accused him and 13 others of fatally shooting her cousin and dragging his body into a swamp, and another by a woman who accused him of colluding with others to kill her son.

Noel, his lips stained purple from the wine he'd been drinking that morning, also accused Cherizier in the slayings and said people in

La Saline now sleep on the streets because they're too scared to spend the night at home.

"We need security, we need help for the people, we need justice," he said, adding that he fears more people will be killed. "The people who can't fight are going to be the victims." Cherizier denied any connection to the massacre and said his enemies have linked him to the killings out of revenge. He said he got the nickname Barbecue as a child because his mother was a street vendor who sold fried chicken, not because he is accused of setting people on fire.

"I would never massacre people in the same social class as me," declared Cherizier, who says he takes inspiration from late dictator Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier, who ruled Haiti with a bloody brutality as "president for life" from 1957 to 1971.

"I was born next door to La Saline. I live in the ghetto. I know what ghetto life is," added Cherizier, the youngest of eight children, whose father died when he was 5.

Weeks after the massacre, police accused Cherizier of being away without leave and expelled him from the

force. Cherizier contends he was asleep when the attack began and never abandoned the force.

Marie-Yolene Gilles, executive director of the human rights group Fondasyon Je Klere, accused politicians of condoning and encouraging gang activity. La Saline has long been known as a rallying point for anti-government protests, and the massacre occurred just days before scheduled nationwide protests over corruption allegations.

"Haiti's security situation is very, very alarming," she said. "It seems that the country doesn't have a leader."

The spike in violence prompted the U.S. State Department to pull out all non-emergency personnel in mid-February and issue a "no travel" advisory that remains in effect as embattled President Jovenel Moise faces massive protests over alleged corruption, lack of basic goods and record inflation.

Villard, the attorney general, said the violence is worse now than in 2004, when former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was toppled by a rebellion that led to the intervention by the U.N. peacekeeping force, whose operation will end in October.

Serge Theriault, U.N. police commissioner in Haiti, said the peacekeeping force addressed gang problems in the early stages of its mission, but he worries about the resurgence and believes it is linked to the economic downturn.

"There are limited things the police can do," he said. "We can try to stop the gang activity, but until these people have employment ... it's very difficult."

The Haitian police are also dealing with gangs infiltrating the force: Last month, they referred five cadets suspected of gang involvement to authorities as outrage grew over brazen daylight killings, including a police detective slain in a high-end neighborhood and a university professor fatally shot after leaving a bank. □

LOCAL



Social entrepreneur James Ocalia in cooperation with HopeAruba Movement 'Sustainable agriculture for healthier locals and rehabilitated drug addicts'



NOORD - Somewhere uphill in Alto Vista you will find a beautiful piece of land with an old, white, traditional cunucu house on it, dating from 1923. Nothing remarkable about that, you might think, as there are many of these old aunties scattered around the island. But this one has an amazing background story. Aruba Today visited the place on a warm, sticky afternoon where James Ocalia was working on the land with a handful other men.

'Cas Speransa Nobo' says the name sign on the cunucu house, it refers to the new hope for the students of the rehabilitation program that is available here. "We call them students rather than drug addicts or clients because they have chosen to learn another life. Their addict life is their past, the goal is to learn and graduate in a new life." The Aruban Ocalia explains that he runs his company -Goshen, which means 'inundated land' - with the help of the men that are part of the rehabilitation program. "They learn to cultivate local crops and it works in two ways. For them it is a subject they learn and a daily goal in life, for me it is exercising my job and doing something good for my island at the same time." Recently Goshen Organic Farm was visited by an expert on the field of water production, professor dr. engineer Filomeno A. Marchena (Boei). The farm recycles water already and during the visit Marchena shared some useful information with Ocalia.

Fair Harvest

While we are walking on the land the students enthusiastically show 'their crops', inviting Aruba Today's journalist to taste a comcomber chiquito. The pride they take in their work and their smiling faces are touching and there is definitely something magic about this place.

Maybe it is best described as pure: the land, the taste of the vegetables, the drive of the students and the sincerity of James, all together it is 'Hope' indeed. On the 7.000 m2 land only local crops are grown: comcomber chiquito (cucumber), jambo (okra), boonchi (beans), pika (hot peppers) form the main production. But one can also find patia (watermelon) and dragon fruit as well as moringa. The plants are seeded and grown in the nursery, built by the students, and when strong enough being transferred to the land.

How it Began

Aruba is a nation of hopeful individuals, who want the best for their island. It is a fact that the social challenges facing our island affect us all in one way or another. Whether it is child abuse or neglect, domestic violence, life-controlling addictions, the high rate of high-school drop outs, increasing poverty, etc. etc., when one is affected, we are all affected. While HopeAruba Movement understands that it is the role of government to be the primary catalyst in providing the framework, platform and financing for addressing these social challenges, they also understand that the government is not necessarily the only agent to heal these issues. Understanding both our responsibility and privilege as citizens, whether individual or corporate, to play an active part in creating the future we want to see, is critical if we are to heal our nation, they state.

We must understand the severe consequences of the long-term mismanagement of Public Finances and how this affects us all, directly or indirectly. Government financial aid for social organizations has dropped by more than 50% in the past years. So what are we to do? A group of citizens decided...we will start by taking responsibility! This prompted the birth of HopeAruba Movement's first Social Impact Business, Goshen Sustainable Development Corporation VBA and HopeAruba's first Social Impact Vehicle under the HopeAruba Fundacion Restauracion banner Cas Speransa Nobo.

"We developed the Goshen Smoothie and we started to develop an Agri-Tourism niche "Farm to Table" experience, a unique experience for our visitors ...a true "taste of Aruba". Now open: - Goshen Villas - A Bed & Breakfast concept and Momentous Café at Goshen at Alto Vista 52, as we grow our business to provide entrepreneurial solutions to social challenges. And of course, Goshen's main purpose is to support vehicles for social change as we engage in business with a purpose, we can be an instrument for national transformation!"

Make a difference

To make a difference is where both connect. "I

myself want to make a difference for my island with my passion: sustainable agriculture. My goal is that locals include the typical Aruban veggies in their food system and eat healthier." He has a thing for Aruba's traditional vegetables and fruits, since he was a kid. "I wrote a book, 'My favorite Curacaos and Aruban Dishes', and found myself asking my granny how actually to prepare traditional dishes with local veggies. That is not right, we need to implement them into modern cooking to preserve these treasures of culture. Italians may have their zucchini and tomatoes, Aruba has her comcomber chiquito and jambo. Our generation does not know how to cook our own veggies, we are often keen on preparing meals from the Italian or other foreign gastronomy, but what about our own culture?" His story creates a curiosity towards the real taste of local gastronomy. "In my opinion three ingredients are necessary to develop social enterprise: the social aspect, the environmental aspect and support by economic pillars, in Aruba's case tourism." □



If you wish to visit Goshen Sustainable Development/Cas Speransa Nobo and buy some local vegetables, you are welcome TODAY at Alto Vista 52 between 10 am and 12.30 pm. Facebook: Goshen Sustainable Development Corporation VBA.

Get your fresh organic veggies straight from our farm to your table! Choose from: Comcomber chikito, Boonchi, Yambo, Pure honey with comb and Watermelon. While you're there, try their refreshing Goshen Smoothie, also available in frozen packages to prepare at home.

Sold Out Michelin Pop-Up Event Begins at Divi Resorts' Windows on Aruba Restaurant

The dinners on June 7th and June 8th will feature top chefs with eight Michelin stars combined



ORANJESTAD, ARUBA – The Caribbean's largest Michelin pop-up event at Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort's Windows on Aruba kicked off Thursday, June 6th with a special invite-only luncheon for local dignitaries and press, and continues with two sold out dinners on Friday, June 7th and Saturday, June 8th. The extravagant eight Michelin star dinners include cocktails, four amuses and an extravagant five-course dinner with wine pairings from Pepia-Est Aruba.

"We're looking forward to welcoming guests and locals to Windows on Aruba for an unforgettable night of fine dining with fantastic, award-winning chefs," said Divi Village Golf & Beach Resort's Director of Food & Beverage, Dominique Bauduin. "Each dish is carefully crafted by the chefs with fresh, exotic ingredients, bold flavors and exquisite presentations."

The participating chefs, including François Geurds of FG Restaurant and FG Food Labs, Erik Van Loo of Parkheuvel, Edwin Vinke of De Kromme Watergang and Jermain de Rozario of De Rozario, all hail from the Netherlands and have eight Michelin stars combined.



"We're very fortunate to have these talented, highly-celebrated chefs travel all the way from the Netherlands to cook for us here on Aruba," Bauduin added. "It's truly an honor and we cannot wait to taste the mouthwatering dishes they create."

The event has already garnered high praise from those who attended the luncheon and Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Public Health & Sport, Danguillaume Oduber, who wrote, "I truly appreciate that key leaders like yourself are hosting such events that put Aruba's name in the top media." He continued on to say, "I have no doubt that Aruba's culinary world will be put in the spotlight."

Tickets for the event are sold out. For more information on the chefs, visit www.diviresorts.com/aruba-culinary-event.htm

About Divi Resorts

Divi Resorts is the vacation expert of the Caribbean, with a collection of eight premium resorts spanning the five stunning Caribbean islands of Aruba, Barbados, Bonaire, St. Croix, and St. Maarten. For more information on Divi Resorts, call 1-800-367-3484 or visit www.diviresorts.com.



L-R: Cees Ursem, KLM Country Manager - Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Turks & Caicos and Jamaica; Alex Nieuwmeyer, Managing Director of Grape Holding, NV; Danilo de Freitas, KLM Sales Manager - Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire

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The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The Distinguished visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were David Camarra & Doreen Stowell-Camarra from Massachusetts, USA! This couple have been coming to the island for 16 years consecutively

This lovely couple stated that they love the island very much, especially for its year-round sunny weather, nice sandy beaches, delicious variety of foods, and The Divi Aruba Phoenix Resort and staff.

Ms. Richardson together with the representatives of The Divi Aruba Phoenix Resort presented the certificate to the honorees, and also handed over some presents and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home away from home. □



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Send us Your Home Greetings Video

ORANJESTAD – Since a while Aruba Today has a column called Aruba To Me. Readers are invited to send their favorite vacation picture along with a text starting with "Aruba to me is ...". The column grew in popularity making the editorial department happy seeing this interaction with our readers realized.



It is wonderful to share the moments of joy of our readers who are vacationing here, but we can also imagine that there are people home who stayed behind and who are being missed. Aruba Today would like to give the opportunity to you as an appreciated reader to send a live greeting to your beloved ones that stayed behind. It can be your parent, child, sister, brother, neighbor who takes care of the cat, friends ... name it. Now is your chance, send us your Home Greetings Video!

What Do You Do

The only thing you need to do is record a short (maximum 1 minute) video with a greeting to home from Aruba and send it to email news@arubatoday.com. Also please write your name and where you are from as well as how long you will be staying in Aruba. We will post your video on the Facebook page of Aruba Today!

Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

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SPORTS



Toronto Raptors guard Kyle Lowry, middle, gestures next to referee Marc Davis (8) near the front row of fans during the second half of Game 3 of basketball's NBA Finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Raptors in Oakland, Calif., Wednesday, June 5, 2019.

Associated Press

Equal treatment means more than just a suspension

By TIM DAHLBERG

Mark Stevens will have to watch on TV when the arena he and his fellow investors are building in San Francisco opens next season with what they hope will be another championship ring ceremony for the Golden State Warriors.

The billionaire venture capitalist's yearlong punishment for shoving Toronto's Kyle Lowry courtside during Game 3 of the NBA Finals came down quickly as the NBA tried to get ahead of today's fast-moving news cycles. The NBA understood it had a public relations — and player relations — crisis on its hands, especially after an initial finals-long suspension drew scorn on social media. And Stevens was also quick to apologize, though the mea culpa came in the form of a prepared statement.

Continued on Page 18

Killer Blues



Special team: Blues penalty kill has them on verge of Cup

St. Louis Blues goaltender Jordan Binnington skates to his position at the start of Game 5 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup Final against the Boston Bruins, Thursday, June 6, 2019, in Boston.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

Lowry apparently wasn't taking calls and, really, who could blame him.

In the NBA's version of a perfect world, it would all be wrapped up before the playoff series moves back to Toronto. Adam Silver had to be hoping the suspension and \$500,000 fine were severe enough to allow the focus to return to basketball in a very competitive NBA Finals.

Well, guess what? They weren't.

It's not enough to ban Stevens for a season for shoving and cursing Lowry after the player crashed into courtside seats while chasing a loose ball in the Raptors win.

He needs to be gone from the NBA for good.

That means no more courtside seats. It means no more ownership stake.

Because anything less means the NBA will be holding a team investor to a different standard than it would an average fan.

No, one mistake doesn't define a person even if it's made on the biggest stage possible, with a national television audience looking on. And a Google check of the Warriors investor shows him to be a charitable guy who has to be distraught about the way he acted in the heat of the moment.

But wrong is wrong. And there's no place the NBA



Toronto Raptors' Kyle Lowry holds his hand to his face as he answers questions during a media conference Thursday, June 6, 2019, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press

needs to be more proactive than among the courtside seats that not only bring fans into the middle of the action but at times right into the middle of players themselves.

Not just for regular fans, like the one who was banned from Jazz games for life after making racial taunts at Russell Westbrook from his courtside seats in Salt Lake City during the regular season.

But for anyone who thinks being able to pay a lot of money for courtside seats means a ticket to be part of the action.

This, of course, wasn't the first time a fan inserted himself into the spotlight in the NBA playoffs. Rapper Drake was all over social media after standing up and rubbing Toronto coach Nick Nurse's shoulders during the series against Milwaukee. That, at least, was kind of cute. This was simply disgusting.

The NBA should be grateful Lowry doesn't have a quick trigger. Because what was an ugly confrontation could have much worse had Lowry gone after Stevens the way Stevens went after him.

Remember "Malice at the Palace," the 2004 game in Detroit where the former Ron Artest went into the stands to beat up a fan who threw a drink at him? A brawl breaking out courtside in the NBA Finals would have made that seem like a quibble.

Instead, Lowry took the high road, and walked away. Instead of trying to settle things man to man on the spot, he left it in the hands of the Warriors and the league to make amends.

"Kyle should get some type of bonus for not doing what

every human would want to do," Raptors guard Fred VanVleet said.

For that alone, his opinion needs to be heard. And Lowry was not shy about saying what he thinks should be done.

"A guy like that, showing his true class, he shouldn't be a part of our league," Lowry said. "There's just no place for that."

A lot of other people agree, including the very players who most nights ply their craft on a 94-by-50 foot piece of hardwood surrounded by thousands of fans crammed in as closely as can be.

They're on display like in no other sport, close enough for fans to chat with them and close enough to touch. But that doesn't mean cursing at them, and it doesn't mean shoving them when they happen to come your way.

The average fan understands that, for the most part. That's a big reason why there haven't been more incidents over the years. The fact a billionaire investor in the team couldn't figure it out is baffling at best, sheer arrogance at worst. Fortunately, though, there is a solution.

Make the suspension indefinite. Force Stevens to sell his stake in the Warriors.

Make a statement with a punishment everyone will understand. □

AP source: Keuchel, Braves reach 1-year deal for about \$13M

By RONALD BLUM

NEW YORK (AP) — Free agent pitcher Dallas Keuchel and the Atlanta Braves have agreed to a one-year contract that would pay the 2015 AL Cy Young Award winner about \$13 million, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday night because the agreement was subject to Keuchel passing a physical, which is scheduled for Friday.

Keuchel's contract would include a salary of about \$21.21 million, and he would get a prorated share that amounts to approximately \$13 million because 114 days will remain in the



In this Oct. 16, 2018, file photo, Houston Astros starting pitcher Dallas Keuchel throws against the Boston Red Sox during the first inning in Game 3 of a baseball American League Championship Series in Houston.

Associated Press

186-day season.

A 31-year-old left-hander, Keuchel was 12-11 with a 3.74 ERA in 34 starts last sea-

son for Houston and turned down a \$17.9 million qualifying offer in November. He has options remaining,

allowing him to start his Braves tenure in the minors as he builds up arm strength and stamina.

A two-time All-Star, Keuchel had 216 strikeouts during his Cy Young season but fanned only 153 batters last year, when he had a \$13.2 million, one-year deal.

He is 76-63 with a 3.66 ERA in seven major league seasons, all with the Astros.

Some teams were reluctant to sign him because of a drop in recent years in some of his advanced metrics, such as percentage of swings and misses.

Interest increased beginning Monday, when the amateur draft started and a club signing him no longer had to give up one or two draft picks and possibly

international signing bonus pool allocation.

The New York Yankees offered a prorated share of the \$17.9 million qualifying offer amount (about \$11 million), a person familiar with their proposal said. That person spoke on condition of anonymity because New York's offer was not made public.

After winning their first NL East title last year since 2013, the Braves are 33-29, two games behind first-place Philadelphia.

Atlanta's all 28-and-under rotation thus far has been led by 21-year-old rookie right-hander Mike Soroka, who is 6-1 with a 1.41 ERA in nine starts, and 25-year-old lefty Max Fried, who is 7-3 with a 3.68 ERA. □

Pebble gives Mickelson last, best chance at elusive US Open

By EDDIE PELLIS
AP National Writer

There was the hospitality tent at Winged Foot. There was Payne and the pager at Pinehurst. There was a near-miss at Merion.

To list all of Phil Mickelson's close calls, meltdowns and shortfalls at the U.S. Open is to peer into a particularly tortured chapter of the history of one of golf's greatest champions.

More uplifting are the stories from Mickelson's five tour victories at Pebble Beach — including one earlier this year.

It's what makes Mickelson's trip next week to Pebble all that much more tantalizing. It's his chance to finally win the tournament he's wanted so badly — maybe too badly — at a course teeming with history and good vibes for not only himself, but for his family and for the game itself. It's a week during which the five-time major winner, who turns 49 on the day of the final round, will come face to face with what could be his last, best chance to win the U.S. Open.

And become the sixth player to complete the career Grand Slam.

"No," Mickelson said when asked if he felt pressure to capture the final leg of the slam in order to enhance his legacy. "It's just that it would be pretty special to be part of the elite players that have won all four. To me, that's the sign of a complete game."

It's hard to argue Mickelson hasn't proven he has the game to win a U.S. Open. He has played in 25 of them as a professional, finished in the top 10 in 10, and finished runner-up in six of those. And yet, the defining trait of America's national championship is that it delivers the ultimate examination of every part of a player's game. That includes the mental and emotional approach — and, it follows that a big piece of that puzzle is the ability to stay cool and make good decisions when the lights are the brightest.

To many, Mickelson's putt-



In this Feb. 11, 2019, file photo, Phil Mickelson poses with his trophy on the 18th green of the Pebble Beach Golf Links after winning the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament in Pebble Beach, Calif.

sweeping debacle at Shinnecock last June, where he finished 48th, was a culmination of a quarter-century's worth of frustration from a player fed up with the vagaries of the USGA's perennial course-setup controversies, to say nothing of the long, star-crossed history he has written for himself in the major he has valued the most.

But if there was a single 20-minute stretch that defines Mickelson at the U.S. Open, it would be the 18th hole at Winged Foot in 2006. He carried a one-shot lead into final hole. His driver — Mickelson hit only two fairways the final round — bounced off a hospitality tent, well left of the fairway and behind a phalanx of trees that blocked his path to the green. Instead of punching out, trying to save par for the win or bogey for a playoff, he went for it. He dismissed the odds and chose against making what looked like the "smart" play, much the way he has throughout a career of all-or-nothing risk taking that

has paid off as often as not. The ball hit a tree and barely went 25 yards. Mickelson made double bogey and lost by one.

"I still am in shock that I did that. I just can't believe that I did that," Mickelson said afterward. "I am such an idiot."

There were close calls both before and after that blow-up, starting in 1999 at Pinehurst, when Mickelson brought a pager with him in case his expecting wife, Amy, went into labor with the couple's first child, Amanda. She didn't. Mickelson played all four rounds. His loss to Payne Stewart after Stewart made and Mickelson missed clutch putts on the final three holes didn't feel all that devastating at the time. Though the loss kept him without a major title, he was 29: Mickelson was on the verge of becoming a father. Father Time was only a faint apparition.

Mickelson's most recent second-place finish — in fact, his last showing in the top 25 at the U.S. Open —

came in 2013 at Merion. He carried the outright lead into the final day for the first time, but played the last six holes in 3 over in an eventual loss to Justin Rose.

He has three Masters titles, one British Open, one PGA Championship and nothing to show from the U.S. Open but a silver medal — a record six of them.

Nobody with access to a calendar will miss the irony in that next year, on the same week Mickelson turns 50 and becomes eligible for the senior tour, the U.S. Open will return to Winged Foot.

But first ... Pebble Beach. Nobody has won more trophies at the tournament known in its formative years simply as the Bing Crosby Clambake. And if Mickelson feels at home on the shores of the Monterey Peninsula, it makes sense. His mother's father, Al Santos, grew up in the area, and even had a caddying gig at Pebble when it opened 100 years ago, in 1919. Mickelson marks his ball with the 1900 silver dol-

lar his grandfather kept in his pocket to remind him that he wasn't poor.

Mickelson made his pro debut in the 1992 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, where he opened with a 68 and was two out of the lead, but shot 81 on Friday to miss the cut. After his fifth victory there in February, a win that marked No. 44 for his career, Mickelson was asked about his history, and his future, at the course.

"I really don't think there's any carry-over from here to the U.S. Open. It's a totally different golf course," he said, a nod to the dry-and-crispy conditions in June, to say nothing of what the USGA usually does to its U.S. Open layouts. "I just really enjoy this place. I seem to play some of my best golf here and that's probably about it."

And so, the questions remain: Can he play his best golf there once again?

And if so, will it be enough to win a championship that has cruelly uncovered every flaw in his game, and turned him into Patient No. 1 on the day after Father's Day for every armchair psychologist or Monday morning quarterback who ever put a tee in the ground?

If he does win it, will it change Mickelson's place in golf history? He's already in good company, one of 12 players, including Arnold Palmer, Lee Trevino, Tom Watson and Byron Nelson, to win three of the four legs of the modern slam. (Sam Snead is the only other whose missing title is the U.S. Open).

But there's a chance Mickelson could find himself in even better company — as in, the company of the career Grand Slam winners: Gene Sarazen, Ben Hogan, Gary Player, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods.

At least one more good chance. "No matter what, he's going to be one of the greatest players that's ever played this game," Woods said. "How he's viewed and whether he wins the career Grand Slam or not, I still think he's one of the best players to ever pick up a golf club." □

Associated Press

St. Louis Blues vs Boston Bruins

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**
 AP Hockey Writer

Something is missing from Boston's power play. The uninterrupted puck movement and cross-ice passes to a wide-open David Pastrnak aren't there anymore. Torey Krug isn't getting the chance to fire away from the top. Patrice Bergeron isn't dominating between the faceoff circles like before. Boston rode its power play to a 2-1 lead in the Stanley Cup Final. Since then, the St. Louis Blues have shut out the most effective power-play unit in more than 30 years and held the Bruins' best players in check, too. The Blues' power play has been nothing special, but their penalty kill is a major reason why St. Louis has won two straight to earn a chance to claim the first NHL championship in franchise history at home Sunday night in Game 6. St. Louis has gone from being the playoffs' least-penalized team through three rounds to something else entirely. The Blues are borderline undisciplined, relying on targeted toughness

to beat up and disrupt the Bruins. It's working. Since allowing six power-play goals early in the final and letting the Bruins go 4-for-4 on four shots in Game 3, the Blues have made five successful penalty kills. Suddenly Boston's most valuable weapon is quiet. "We're staying tight to each other," Blues penalty killer Oskar Sundqvist said. "We're not letting them pass through the seams and shoot from the top and things like that. We're making it harder on them and keeping them on the outside. We just need to keep doing the same thing and we're probably going to be fine if we do that." Not just fine. If this keeps up, they could be Stanley Cup champions. Game 3 was such an eye-opener of how good Boston's power play is that many wondered if the Bruins were just going to steamroll the Blues and win the series in five games. But Sundqvist was suspended that game and goaltender Jordan Binnington has shown serious resolve since then. Blues coach Craig



St. Louis Blues' Vince Dunn, left, checks Boston Bruins' Joakim Nordstrom, of Sweden, during the second period in Game 5 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup Final, Thursday, June 6, 2019, in Boston. Associated Press

Berube also has made adjustments to counter Boston coach Bruce Cassidy's special teams. "They really like using seam passes and things like that, and I thought we were tight and doing a good job with our sticks and doing a real good job on our stand at the blue line on their breakouts and breaking plays up," Berube said. Boston's power play had been converting over 30% — a clip that could have

been the second-highest all-time for a Cup champion — and was drawing comparisons to the New York Islanders' 1980s dynasty that featured Mike Bossy, Denis Potvin, Clark Gillies and Bryan Trottier. "Back then it was more drop-off, backdoor, overload ... a lot more point shots," Cassidy said. "Little more low-to-high driven net-on-net, whereas now I think you see a lot more power plays, certainly al-

ways the half wall is a big thing. But I would guess more net-front tips, rebounds back then. Now it's more one-timer, seam passes." Krug considers Cassidy a power-play mastermind, and that will be tested with the Bruins facing elimination Sunday for the first time since Game 7 in the first round against Toronto. "I think in zone, they've been tight," Cassidy said of the Blues. □

Gymnastics coach under restrictions for misconduct claim



In this June 30, 2016 photo, coach John Holman works with a gymnast at Parkettes National Gymnastics Training Center in Allentown, Pa.

Associated Press

Associated Press
 ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP) — The organization tasked with policing abuse in Olympic sports has barred a Pennsylvania gymnastics coach from being around minors unsupervised while it investigates a misconduct claim. John Holman's interim restriction issued by the U.S. Center for SafeSport is a requirement when such allegations are reported, according to USA Gymnastics. Holman has coached for about 40 years at Parkettes Gymnastics Club, which has trained thousands of gymnasts including several Olympians. Messages seeking comment left at the club and at the 66-year-old Holman's

home weren't returned Friday. The U.S. Center for SafeSport is investigating the allegations. No details about the allegation are given in the restriction notice. A spokeswoman for Lehigh County District Attorney Jim Martin told The Allentown Morning Call his office is not aware of allegations against Holman. The bylaw cited as grounds for the restriction refers exclusively to sexual misconduct, but USA Gymnastics said it could also refer to non-sexual misconduct allegations. The organization's website was updated Friday to include a line that the bylaw is listed for any matter, not just sexual mis-

conduct. The Morning Call reported that the website was updated after its initial story on Holman. Leslie A. King, a representative for USA Gymnastics, said website updates had been in the works for some time. Holman told the Orange County Register earlier this week he was unaware of the allegation and didn't commit sexual misconduct. Last year, The Morning Call reported that former U.S. National Team member Jessica Armstrong said she was sexually abused by a coach while training at Parkettes in the late 1970s or early 1980s. The coach Armstrong accused, who wasn't named, has not worked for the club since the 1980s. □

Something new: A French Open final for Barty, Vondrousova

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Ash Barty won 17 of the initial 18 points in her French Open semifinal against 17-year-old Amanda Anisimova to lead 5-0 after 12 minutes — and yet somehow lost that set.

Barty then lost the initial 12 points of the second set to trail 3-0 — and yet somehow won it.

So it was fitting, perhaps, that Barty not only fell behind by a break in the deciding set before coming back to take control, but also that she required a half-dozen match points to finally close things out.

Barty, an Australian seeded No. 8, reached her first Grand Slam final by steadying herself and emerging to beat Anisimova, an American ranked 51st, by a score of 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-3 in a topsy-turvy contest on a windy, rainy Friday.

"I played some really good tennis. I played some pretty awful tennis," said Barty, a 23-year-old who took nearly two years away from the sport starting in 2014 to switch to cricket before returning to the tour.

"I'm just proud of myself the way I was able to fight and scrap and hang in there and find a way," she said, "when I kind of threw away that first set."

After ending Anisimova's breakthrough run, Barty now takes on another unseeded teen for the championship Saturday: 19-year-old Marketa Vondrousova of the Czech Republic. Vondrousova, ranked just 38th, reached her first major final by overcoming a shaky start in each set and eliminating No. 26 Johanna Konta of Britain 7-5, 7-6 (2). Vondrousova has not dropped a set in the tournament and can become the first teenager to win the French Open since Iva Majoli in 1997.

"Best week of my life so far," Vondrousova said. "I'm just very happy with everything."

That was Barty's mood at the outset of her semifinal, which then took quite a turn. Several, actually.

With Anisimova serving



Australia's Ashleigh Barty celebrates winning her semifinal match of the French Open tennis tournament against Amanda Anisimova of the U.S. in three sets 7-6 (7-4), 6-3, 6-3, at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Friday, June 7, 2019.

Associated Press

down 0-5, 15-40, Barty held two sets points. From there, Anisimova began playing the way she did in her quarterfinal upset of defending champion Simona Halep — and Barty suddenly lost her way. Anisimova took six consecutive games. In the tiebreaker, more of the same: Barty went up 4-2, but Anisimova collected the last five points.

"Pretty tough to come to terms with," Barty said of her first-set collapse. "Probably never done that to myself before."

When Anisimova claimed that set with a forehand winner, she raised both arms aloft, looking like someone who had just won the entire match. Not quite, kid.

Still, that momentum carried her to a lead in the second set, before Barty went on a seven-game run of her own to go ahead 1-0 in the third.

Not ready to quit, Anisimova broke to lead 2-1 and had just fended off three break points when, at deuce, her coach signaled from the stands that play should stop because the rain picked up. Anisimova paused while the chair umpire climbed down to check whether the lines were slippery, but determined play could continue. The little pause might have

been enough to break Anisimova's concentration. Sure played as if it did.

Barty broke there and went on a four-game burst. As the match slipped away, Anisimova had distress written all over her face. After one lost point, she clutched her racket against her chest like a pillow. After another, she balled up her right hand into a fist and landed a punch on each thigh.

"She just outplayed me, basically," Anisimova said. Vondrousova did not start

her major semifinal debut well, either. She double-faulted twice in the opening game while ceding the first 10 points, and faced three set points down 5-3. On Konta's first chance, she badly missed a swinging forehand volley.

"That's what I would do nine times out of 10. And probably nine times out of 10, it probably would go in," Konta said. "I definitely don't regret anything."

Perhaps, but she never recovered in that set. And in

the second, Konta again blew a 5-3 edge.

Konta, the only member of the women's final four with previous Grand Slam semifinal experience, is now 0-3 in that round at majors. This time, she was undone by Vondrousova, a left-hander who appears to possess every shot there is, with an enviable variety of speeds and angles.

"She's a tricky player," Konta said. "That's what she does well."

The semifinals were played in difficult conditions, in drizzle, wind that reached 12 mph (20 kph) and temperatures of about 60 degrees (15 Celsius). The matches also were played at unusual courts — scheduling that was criticized by women's tennis tour CEO Steve Simon as "unfair and inappropriate."

Normally, all French Open singles semifinals are held in Court Philippe Chatrier, with the women on Thursday and men on Friday. But after a full day of play was washed out by rain Wednesday, tournament officials shuffled the schedule. The women's semifinals were held simultaneously at the second- and third-biggest courts at Roland Garros instead of the main stadium, starting just after 11 a.m. □

Frenchwoman Frappart promoted to referee in top division

PARIS (AP) — The French soccer league has promoted Stephanie Frappart to referee fulltime in the country's top division next season.

The 35-year-old Frappart became the first woman to referee a top-flight match in France when taking charge of the Amiens-Strasbourg game in April. Frappart says "I'm proud and honored about this nomination," adding that she hopes her example encourages "young girls and women to take up refereeing." She will also referee at this year's Women's World Cup in France. □



In this Sunday, April 28, 2019 file photo, French referee Stephanie Frappart, gestures during the French League One soccer match between Amiens and Strasbourg at the Stade de la Licorne stadium in Amiens, France.

Associated Press

Belmont will bring end to entertaining Triple Crown

By TOM CANAVAN

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There's been a buzz about thoroughbred racing since the Kentucky Derby and it just might increase when the "What if?" Triple Crown comes to an end with the Belmont Stakes.

Think about it.

What if Maximum Security, the first colt across the finish line, had not interfered with eventual Preakness winner War of Will at the top of the stretch in the Derby?

The incident led to a much-debated disqualification of Maximum Security that got people talking about horse racing.

What if a loose horse in the Preakness hadn't overshadowed War of Will's victory two weeks later at Pimlico in Maryland?

What will come next in the Belmont?

Maybe it's trainer Mark Casse's War of Will winning the final leg in the 1½ mile Belmont Saturday for two thirds of the Triple Crown.

Of course, that would lead to: 'What if War of Will had not been fouled in Derby?' Might he have joined American Pharoah (2015) and Justify (last year) as recent Triple Crowns winners?



Horses arrive at sunrise for workouts at Belmont Park in Elmont, N.Y., Friday, June 7, 2019.

Associated Press

Casse insists his colt would've had a shot to win had he not been fouled. The questions and the chatter will go on. But that's positive for a sport dealing with a recent slew of thoroughbred deaths at tracks around the country.

"I think this has been a great Triple Crown for racing," said trainer Dale Romans, who is saddling longshot Everfast for the Belmont. "It's not a negative that's on TV. Its controversial issues on TV. If it was a negative issue, it would be differ-

ent. Controversy is good. People love controversy, and it's got people talking about the game that had no idea about it." The Belmont will have a field of 10. Tacitus and War of Will are clearly the colts to beat.

Trainer Bill Mott's Tacitus hasn't raced since being placed third in the Kentucky Derby. The colt also will have somewhat of a home-ice advantage since he regularly trains on the track known as "Big Sandy." The colt is sired by Tapit, the father of three of the last five Belmont winners.

Mott is cautiously optimistic about his chances.

War of Will is racing for the third time in five weeks. He is the only colt to compete in all three of the Triple Crown races this year.

"I have less concern about that now than if you had asked me that question two or three days after the Preakness," Casse said. "I would have said that is a huge concern. We know that horse pretty well and we think he is ready."

There are other interesting stories that could emerge Saturday.

The third choice in the race is Master Fencer at 8-1. The colt is looking to become the first horse bred, based or owned by Japanese connections to win the Belmont. Roman's Everfast, who finished second in the Preakness at 29-1, will be looking for only his second win in 12 career starts. □



Brazilian soccer player Neymar gives a thumbs up after speaking to journalists as he leaves a police station where he spoke to police in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Thursday, June 6, 2019.

Associated Press

By MAURICIO SAVARESE

Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Rio de Janeiro police said Thursday that soccer star Neymar was expected to testify soon in an investigation linked to a woman's rape allegation against him.

The Brazilian soccer confederation reported earlier

that Neymar had received a subpoena to speak with authorities Friday about his posting on social media of images and messages of the accuser without her authorization in possible violation of her online privacy.

The rape case is being investigated separately in Sao Paulo, where the woman filed a formal complaint

Neymar to testify about posting accuser's photos

with police Friday alleging that Neymar raped her in a Paris hotel room May 15.

Neymar denies any wrongdoing. After word of the woman's allegation became known, the player shared social media posts meant to show that the accuser had sent friendly him messages following the alleged rape.

Neymar departed from the Brazil national team's hotel in the capital of Brasilia on Thursday and boarded a jet shortly afterward. He left the squad because after injuring his right ankle in a friendly match against Qatar on Wednesday held as a warmup for the Copa America soccer tournament.

The accuser, Najila Trindade, a 26-year-old model, made her first public comments about her charge this week, telling two Brazilian television stations that Neymar raped her and engaged in "aggression," or physical violence.

The Associated Press doesn't name alleged sexual assault victims unless they make their identities public, which Trindade did in the TV interviews.

She told the SBT channel that Neymar became aggressive after she refused to have unprotected sex with him. She said the player had sexual intercourse with her despite her refusal and hit her repeatedly.

"I said: 'Stop it, stop it, stop

it.' He did not communicate, he just acted," Trindade said.

Meanwhile, a video emerged on social media Thursday night that appears to show Neymar and his accuser in a physical altercation. It is unclear how or when the video was made, and the AP has no way of verifying it.

Neymar da Silva Santos, Neymar's father and agent, said the new video is evidence that his son was set up by Trindade.

Trindade denied that during her TV appearances. "I wouldn't expose myself this way to take money from Neymar. There is no logic, there is no sense," she told one interviewer. □

More European clubs oppose plan to overhaul Champions League

PARIS (AP) — Teams from France, Germany, Italy, Portugal and Switzerland have added their voices to concerns about plans to transform the Champions League.

As more than 150 European Club Association members met Friday in Malta, The Associated Press obtained statements from executives at Schalke, Lazio, Saint-Etienne, Monaco, Bordeaux, Braga, Basel and Young Boys expressing opposition to the Champions League becoming a largely closed competition.

The expressions of dissent follow the Premier League announcing that England's 20 clubs all opposed the club-driven concept presented by UEFA in recent talks with the European Leagues group and national federations.

There is also a split in Spain, where seven of the country's nine ECA members are part of the resistance. Barcelona and Real Madrid appear to remain behind the organization. Both clubs have seats on the board. The ECA, which is led by



Liverpool's Jordan Henderson lifts the trophy to celebrate with his teammates winning the Champions League final soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Liverpool at the Wanda Metropolitano Stadium in Madrid, Saturday, June 1, 2019.

Associated Press

Juventus chairman Andrea Agnelli, has pushed for 24 out of 32 group teams starting in 2024 to return the following season. It could remove much of the intrigue in domestic leagues, where there is a chase for European qualification places.

The concept circulating since March also calls for eight-team groups instead of four, guaranteeing clubs 14 games before the knockout rounds instead of the current six.

One option to find space in a congested calendar for

more Champions League games is cutting 20-team national leagues — such as the Premier League, the Spanish league and Serie A — to as few as 16 teams. Smaller leagues risk having less commercial value.

From Germany, Schalke

chief executive Peter Peters said "we need now to start with a blank page" by abandoning the current concept.

"We need to guarantee the long-term sporting as well economic sustainability of both the national championships and the European competitions," Lazio president Claudio Lotito said.

Agnelli said at a news conference in Malta that "it is not an easy task" to reach agreement. The UEFA-led consultation would likely reach decisions no earlier than a December meeting of its executive committee.

"If 70 to 80% of the constituency will be satisfied with the result, it's going to be a very good result," Agnelli said, calling on his members to "engage positively with intellectual honesty" shaping European soccer.

The new plan would promote and relegate teams between the Champions League with the Europa League, which would have similar locked-in places and movement with a new third-tier competition starting in 2021. □

Pakistan, Sri Lanka share points in 1st washout at World Cup

By BRIAN CHURCH
Associated Press

BRISTOL, England (AP) — The Cricket World Cup had its first washout on Friday, with rain preventing any ball being bowled in the group match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

The 11th game of the tournament always looked under threat on Day 9 after persistent rain in the morning at Bristol's County Ground.

The rain started to ease around noon and conditions had improved at the time of a pitch inspection, with occasional sunshine, but umpires decided the ground was too wet. The decision was announced shortly after 3:45 p.m. local time (1445 GMT).

It was only the second fixture across five men's Cricket World Cup tournaments in England, dating back to 1975, that not a single ball was bowled in a game.



Ground staff work to clear water off the outfield prior to the Cricket World Cup match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, at Bristol County Ground, in Bristol, England, Friday June 7, 2019.

Associated Press

Hundreds of Pakistan and Sri Lanka fans, draped in their country's colors, had hoped at least for a reduced, 20-over match but took the decision well. Sri Lanka supporters have already seen one rain-inter-

rupted game, where the 1996 champions beat Afghanistan in Cardiff.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka went into the game with a win and a loss, and now each get a point for the washout. Sri Lanka will value that

point more than its opponent. Pakistan had won all seven of their previous CWC completed matches with Sri Lanka, including three in England and Wales.

Sri Lanka's next game is

against Bangladesh here Tuesday. Pakistan plays defending champion Australia in Taunton the following day. Pakistan had ended a run of 11 straight losses in one-day internationals by beating top-ranked England by 14 runs in a thriller at Trent Bridge on Monday. That impressive performance came after its second-lowest World Cup total of 105 in a shambolic opening loss to West Indies. "As a team we really wanted to play this match especially after gaining momentum with the win against England," Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed said. "It is unfortunate that we were not able to play."

"We have great team spirit and our confidence is on a high after beating England. We would want to carry the momentum into the remaining games. We won't relax in our remaining six matches." □

Stranger in the kitchen: Walmart to deliver inside homes

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — How much do you trust a stranger with your fridge?

Walmart is now offering to have one of its employees deliver fresh groceries and put them in your refrigerator when you're not home.

The nation's largest grocer said that it will be offering the service this fall for more than one million customers in three cities: Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Missouri, and Vero Beach, Florida. Later this year, the service, called InHome Delivery, will also accept returns for items purchased on Walmart.com.

The new service, announced Friday ahead of Walmart's annual shareholders' meeting in Fayetteville, Arkansas, is part of the company's drive to expand its shopping options that include curbside pickup and online grocery delivery and cater to time-starved shoppers.

And it comes as the world's largest retailer is locked in an arms race with online



In this Nov. 9, 2018, file photo, a box of merchandise is unloaded from a truck and sent along a conveyor belt at a Walmart Supercenter in Houston.

Associated Press

leader Amazon.com to bring packages faster and faster to customers' homes. Amazon offers a similar service in certain cities, dropping off packages inside homes, garages or car trunks. But its service does not deliver groceries.

"We will learn and then we will scale from there," Doug McMillon, Walmart CEO

told the crowd of Walmart workers and shareholders on Friday at the University of Arkansas' Bud Walton arena.

Two years ago, Walmart tested a similar service in the Silicon Valley area but teamed up with delivery startup Deliv and worked with August Home, makers of smart locks and smart

home accessories. That test has since been stopped.

With Walmart's new service, customers place a grocery delivery order online and then select InHome Delivery and a delivery day at checkout.

Walmart workers will use smart entry technology and a proprietary wearable camera to access the cus-

tomers' home. That allows shoppers to control access into their home and give them the ability to watch the delivery remotely.

Walmart said that the workers will go through an extensive training program to prepare them for things like how to select the freshest groceries and how best to organize the refrigerator. Workers need to be with the company for at least one year. Walmart declined to give specifics on the technology. It said that ahead of the launch it will share the fee details for the delivery service, which in addition to fresh food will include grocery essentials such as canned pears and peanut butter.

The last mile from a transportation hub to someone's home has been the key logistical hurdle for delivery services.

"Now, we can serve customers not in just the last mile, but in the last 15 feet," wrote Marc Lore, CEO of Walmart's U.S. e-commerce division, in a corporate blog post. □

Facebook stops Huawei from pre-installing apps on phones

By KELVIN CHAN

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Facebook said Friday it has stopped letting its apps come pre-installed on smartphones sold by Huawei in order to comply with U.S. restrictions, a move that deals a fresh blow to the Chinese tech giant.

The social network said it has suspended providing software for Huawei to put on its devices while it reviews recently introduced U.S. sanctions.

Owners of existing Huawei smartphones that already have Facebook apps can continue to use them and download updates.

Facebook said people who have Huawei phones or buy new ones will still be able to download Facebook on their own.

Facebook's move is the latest fallout in the escalating U.S.-China tech feud.

The Commerce Depart-



In this Tuesday, May 21, 2019 file photo, a member of the media tries out new Huawei Honor 20 series of phones following their global launch in London.

Associated Press

ment last month effectively barred U.S. companies from selling their technology to Huawei and other Chinese firms without government approval. China's Com-

merce Ministry responded this week by warning it would release its own list of "unreliable" foreign companies in the near future.

U.S. officials are pressing

their global campaign to blacklist Huawei, the world's No. 1 network equipment provider and second-largest smartphone maker. They say Beijing could use

the company's products for cyberespionage, though they haven't presented evidence of intentional spying.

"We are reviewing the Commerce Department's final rule and the more recently issued temporary general license and taking steps to ensure compliance," Facebook said, referring to a 90-day grace period allowing continued support of existing Huawei equipment.

Huawei declined to comment.

Google, which makes the Android operating system used by Huawei, has already said that while it would continue to support existing Huawei phones, future devices won't come with its flagship apps and services, including maps, Gmail and search. Only basic services would be available for future versions of Android. □

Liz Weston: Let's get real about health costs in retirement

By LIZ WESTON
NerdWallet
Associated Press

You won't pay for health care in retirement with one lump sum. That's the way these expenses are often presented, though, and the amounts are terrifying. Fidelity Investments, for example, says a couple retiring in 2019 at age 65 will need \$285,000 for health expenses, not including nursing home or other long-term care. The Employee Benefits Research Institute says some couples could need up to \$400,000 — again, not including long-term care. The Center for Retirement Research at Boston College hasn't updated its figures recently, but back in 2010 estimated a typical couple could spend \$260,000 for medical and long-term care, with a 5% risk that costs will exceed \$570,000.

No wonder 45% of people in their 50s and early 60s have little or no confidence that they'll be able to afford their health care costs once they retire, according to a survey by the University of Michigan.

MEDICAL COSTS MAY BE MORE PREDICTABLE THAN YOU THINK



This April 2017, file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

Associated Press

The approach of presenting people with a huge, perhaps unattainable, figure has long bothered Jean Young, senior research associate with the Vanguard Center for Investor Research.

"The thing is, it's not helpful, it's not actionable, it's not relatable," Young says.

You also may need six

figures to cover food, or transportation, or shelter in a typical retirement. But these are costs you pay over time — just like you'll pay for health care.

Young and other Vanguard researchers partnered with actuaries at Mercer Health and Benefits consulting firm to create a proprietary model based

on what retired people actually spend on health care. What they found was that medical costs tend to be in certain ranges, based on a handful of factors:

- Where you live
- Your health
- Your parents' health
- Whether you buy supplemental coverage
- Your income

Higher-income people pay larger premiums for certain parts of Medicare. Some premiums also vary by location, as do medical costs in general. How much health care you'll consume is greatly influenced by how healthy you are when entering retirement, and, to some extent, your genes.

"The actuaries know that the health status of your parents tends to pass generationally," Young says.

A TYPICAL RANGE: \$4,900 TO \$6,000

Here's the number the researchers came up with: \$5,200. That's the median amount a typical 65-year-old woman could expect to spend annually for premiums and out-of-pocket medical, dental and vision costs in 2018. (Median is the point where half pay more and half pay less. The study used women because they have slightly higher long-term costs, but the gender difference is about 2%.)

That assumes the woman lives in a medium-cost area, is at medium risk for health care costs (she either smokes or has a chronic medical condition or two) and buys supplemental Plan F, the most popular Medigap policy. □

Asian stocks trail US rise on US-Mexico trade deal optimism

By YURI KAGEYAMA
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mostly higher Friday on investor optimism about a possible trade deal between the U.S. and Mexico before tariffs take effect. Japan's Nikkei 225 gained 0.5% to 20,884.71, while Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose nearly 1.0% to 6,443.90. South Korea's Kospi fell 0.2% to 2,066.03. Chinese markets were closed for a holiday.

A modest Wall Street rally gained strength in the final hour of trading after Bloomberg reported that the U.S. was considering delaying a 5% tariff on Mexican goods, set to go into effect on Monday. The report came as the two countries held a second day of trade talks. The S&P 500 index gained

17.34 points, or 0.6%, to 2,843.49. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 181.09 points, or 0.7%, to 25,720.66. It briefly climbed 260 points.

The Nasdaq composite reversed an early slide, adding 40.08 points, or 0.5%, to 7,615.55. The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies dropped 3.25 points, or 0.2%, to 1,503.54.

President Donald Trump said he'll make a decision about ramping up tariffs on China after he speaks with Chinese President Xi Jinping this month during the G-20 meeting in Japan, which brings together leaders of developed and developing countries.

Trump ordered tariffs of up to 25% on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of Chinese exports and his

administration is preparing to extend them to \$300 billion more — almost all items shipped to the U.S. from China. China has reciprocated with tariffs of its own, among other measures.

The trade dispute with Mexico and China threatens to stifle economic growth in the U.S. and globally. Uncertainty surrounding the trade negotiations has sent many traders fleeing to safer investments, like bonds and gold.

Investors are also watching the U.S. jobs data due later in the day for signs of where the economy is going.

"Asia markets look set to trail after the U.S. with moderate gains as worries on trade tuned a notch lower through the Thursday session. The attention, meanwhile, is mostly focused



Visitors take photos of a statue of a bull along a shopping street in Beijing, Friday, June 7, 2019. Asian shares were mostly higher Friday on investor optimism about a possible trade deal between the U.S. and Mexico before tariffs take effect.

Associated Press

upon Friday's U.S. labor market update," said Jingyi Pan, market strategist at IG in Singapore.

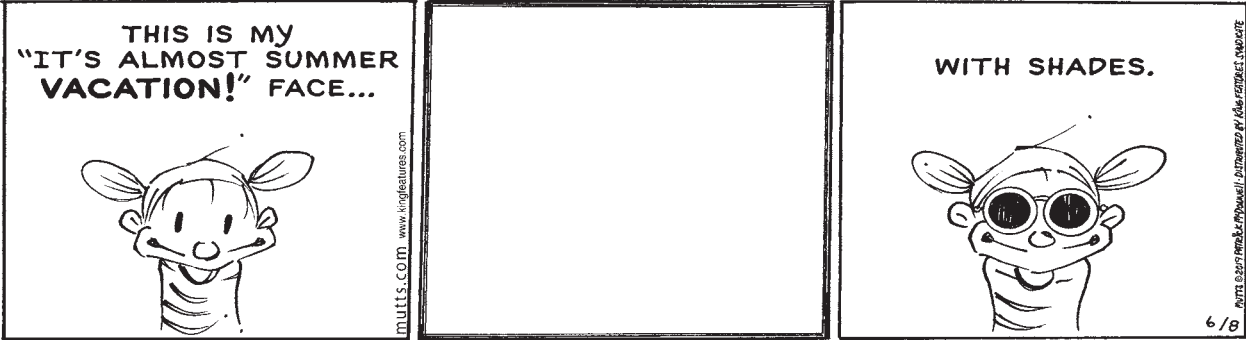
ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude gained 66 cents to \$53.25 a barrel. Brent crude oil, the

international standard, rose 79 cents to \$62.46 a barrel.

CURRENCIES:

The dollar rose to 108.44 Japanese yen from 108.22 yen on Thursday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1266 from \$1.1231. □

Mutts



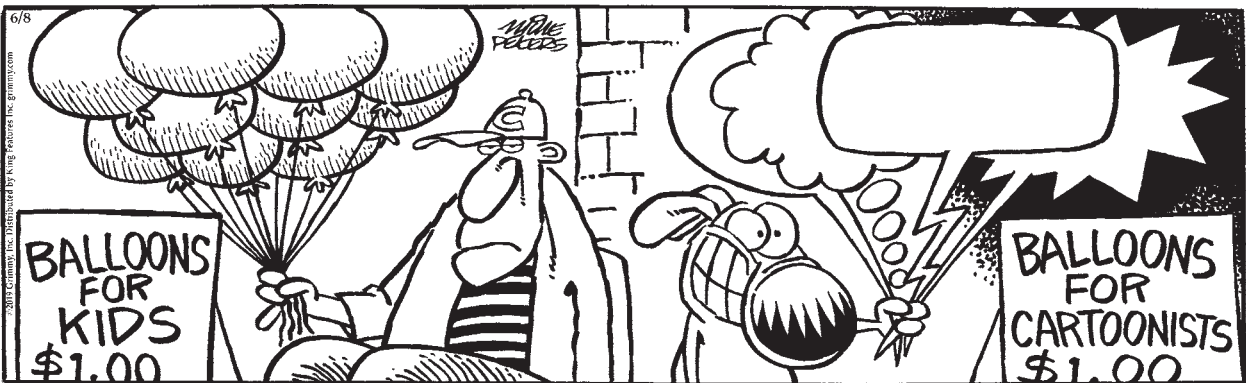
6 Chix



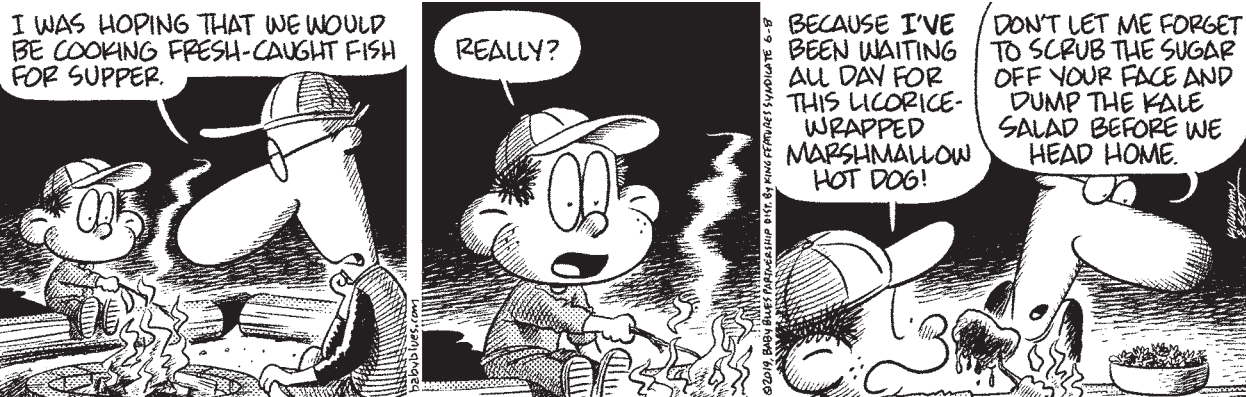
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	5		7				1	
				8				
1	7						6	8
			4	6	1			7
	3						4	
9			3	7	5			
2	4						7	9
				3				
	8				9		2	

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

6/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

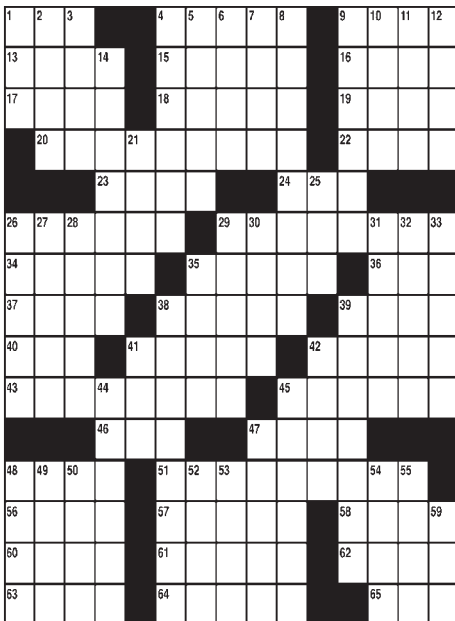
2	8	4	6	3	9	5	1	7
1	3	9	8	7	5	2	4	6
6	7	5	2	1	4	3	8	9
4	2	6	1	9	3	7	5	8
5	9	8	7	4	2	6	3	1
7	1	3	5	8	6	4	9	2
9	6	2	4	5	1	8	7	3
8	5	1	3	2	7	9	6	4
3	4	7	9	6	8	1	2	5

ACROSS

- 1 Source of quick cash
4 Caffé ____; Starbucks order
9 Where goat herders yodel
13 Fanny
15 Singer ____ Lavigne
16 "Old King ____"
17 Lose color
18 Passed out cards
19 Bit of evidence
20 Geometric figure
22 Shade trees
23 Flat caps
24 Tear
26 Regal seat
29 Hewlett-Packard machines
34 At all ____; anytime day or night
35 Get an "F"
36 Battery size
37 Up in ____; irate
38 Part of a fork
39 End-of-the-work-week cry
40 Wedding words
41 Tries to lose
42 One of the vital signs
43 Vipers
45 Occupation
46 On one's ____; independent
47 Make fun of
48 E's followers
51 Divvy up
56 Gehrig & Ferrigno
57 Punctuation mark
58 Highly self-satisfied
60 Suffix for adapt or avoid
61 Not tight
62 Conceal
63 Feral
64 Parent or grandparent
65 Israel's ____ Aviv

DOWN

- 1 Cry from Annie's dog
2 Eye secretion



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/8/19

Friday's Puzzle Solved

POT	ADAGE	ETCH
MAMA	LIBEL	SOLO
BING	CALAMITOUS	
ALI	LONER	VALET
STOVE	PIT	
ACCUSE	SLEEPS	
RUINS	CHAOS	REF
TREE	BOUND	BEAU
SIN	PUNTS	RAFTS
ETHICS	DURESS	
OAK	SANER	
GROAN	GLENS	AMI
RIPROAR	GLING	ABUT
ICED	RINSE	ILLS
PANS	ENTER	LEE

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6/8/19

- 41 Mountain ____; soft drink
42 Treaty
44 Self-confident
45 Just around the ____; imminent
47 Antlered animal
48 Defect
49 Mongolian desert
50 Ship's frame
52 Combine, as funds
53 Walk with heavy steps
54 Leave out
55 Unclothed
59 Vaseline, e.g.

Albinism pageant in Zimbabwe joyfully breaks down prejudice

By FARAI MUTSAKA

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Ayanda Sibanda, a model with albinism, has invariably been called "yellow" or "white" by friends and even some relatives. But she hardly recalls anyone referring to her by her actual race.

"I am black, that's what I thought, but then I am always made to feel otherwise," said the 18-year old who was crowned Miss Albinism Zimbabwe on Friday night.

At the pageant, competitors and organizers spoke frankly about color and prejudice.

About 70,000 of Zimbabwe's estimated 16 million people are born with albinism, according to government figures. They often stand out, making them a subject at times of discrimination, ridicule and dangerously misguided beliefs. "Some have superstitions that we can bring luck or cure HIV," said Brenda Mudzimu, organizer of the pageant, one of a growing number of such events in Africa.

In nearby Malawi and Tanzania, albinos are sometimes killed for their body parts for use in witchcraft. No such killings have been recorded in Zimbabwe. But people with albinism say

life is still tough.

The Mr. and Miss Albinism Zimbabwe competition, now in its second year, is a chance to push back.

"I want it to be normal for an albino girl to achieve without it being a newspaper headline," Ayanda told The Associated Press. "They never say a black girl won Miss Zimbabwe. But if I were to win it, they would all say an albino girl won."

Friday night's crown was her second in just weeks. Last month she was crowned second princess of Miss Teen Zimbabwe. "It was open to every race," she said. But she said she has been told she lost some other pageants only because of her albinism.

She and others, including university students and a nurse, strutted down the tiny runway Friday night to Ed Sheeran's hit song "Perfect," posed for judges and answered questions to cheers from the crowd.

The loudest cheers were for the male models, competing for the first time.

"My God, he is such a hunk," shouted one woman in the crowd. "This is what I call a real man," yelled another as the eventual winner of Mr. Albinism, Edson Mambinge, a 21-year-old fitness trainer, strolled by.

"When I am modelling, al-



Ayanda Sibanda, centre, smiles, after being crowned Miss Albinism Zimbabwe 2019 at an albino pageant held in Harare, early Saturday, May 25, 2019.

Associated Press

binism is not my peculiarity. My fitness is," Mambinge said. □



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GOLD Season

2B Oceanfront \$14k
2B Oceanside \$8500
GV \$6k OV \$7k
3BEDROOM \$12500

PLATINUM Season

2B Oceanfront \$25k
Oceanside \$16k
Oceanview \$15k
3BEDROOM \$25k
*WK. 51 GV \$39k
*WK 52 OV \$46k
* Weeks 7 and 14-all views

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

GOLD Season

2B Oceanfront \$14k
2B OV \$8000
1 Bed \$4000
1B Oceanfront \$8500

PLATINUM Season

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OTHER

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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

CRUISES



June 12
Monarch
June 18
Freedom of the Seas

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Women in Difficulties
Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



Schools reckon with social stress: 'I'm on my phone so much'

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — High school biology teacher Kelly Chavis knew smartphones were a distraction in her class. But not even her students realized the psychological toll of their devices until an in-class experiment that, of course, was then spreading on social media.

For one class period, students used a whiteboard to tally, in real time, every Snapchat, Instagram, text, call or other notification that popped up. Students were told not to respond to avoid generating replies ... and further notifications.

Teachers around the country have run similar experiments, typically recording dozens of trips to the board. "One girl, just during the one hour, got close to 150 Snapchat notifications. 150!" marveled Chavis, who teaches honors-level courses at Rock Hill Schools in South Carolina.

She's among a growing number of teachers, parents, medical professionals and researchers convinced that smartphones are now playing a major role in accelerating student anxiety — a trend so pervasive that a National Education Association newsletter labelled anxiety a "mental health tsunami."

Testing, extracurricular-packed schedules, and perpetual stressors like poverty can all weigh on students. But research now points to smartphones-driven social media as one of the biggest drivers of stress. After all, that's where college acceptance letters fill Instagram, everyone knows where everyone else is going for spring break, and athletic failures and awkward social moments can live forever.

Jean Twenge, a psychol-



In this March 13, 2014, file photo, Hartselle High School students Lissa Blagburn and Brantlee Wright use an iPhone as they work on a networked lesson in Spanish class in Hartselle, Ala.

Associated Press

ogy professor at San Diego State who has studied the issue, said it's no coincidence that youth mental health issues have risen with the number of phones. "What a lot of teens told me is that social media and their phones feel mandatory," she said, leading to a loss of sleep and face-to-face interactions necessary for their mental well-being. Last year, an editorial in the American Academy of Pediatrics' flagship journal recommended that doctors ask adolescent patients about their social media use as part of routine screening, alongside older questions about home life and drug and sexual activity. "Aberrant and/or excessive social media usage may contribute to the development of mental health disturbance in at-risk teenagers, such as feelings of isolation, depressive symptoms, and anxiety," three researchers wrote in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Researchers are still arguing whether phones drive student depression or depression drives phone use. But 70 percent of teens view anxiety and depression as major problems among their peers, according to a February Pew Research Center report. Nearly 60 percent of parents said they worry about the influence of social media on their child's physical and mental health in the American Psychological Association's 2017 Stress in America survey.

Schools are starting to react. Many districts now hire outside companies to monitor students' social media postings for signs of distress. Others invite in yoga instructors and comfort dogs to teach even the youngest kids to keep technology from putting them on edge.

Belfast Area High School in Maine even staged an #unplugged event day in April — but it served to underline the technology's pull when less than 20 percent of students and staff took part.

Meanwhile, students and parents are filling school auditoriums for screenings of documentaries such as "LIKE" and "Angst," which explore social media, technology and anxiety. Movements like Away for the Day

and Wait Until 8th discourage cellphones in middle school.

When she first got a smartphone around seventh grade, all the posting, messaging and liking pushed Nia Coates' anxiety level to "probably a 10," she said. Now a high school junior, the Buffalo, New York, teen has figured out to manage the distractions.

She'll completely log out of her Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter, and sometimes will delete an app altogether for a while. "The older I've gotten, the more I realize it doesn't really matter so it's not as stressful," Coates said, recalling how in the past she'd post something only to delete it to avoid being judged.

Anxiety has taken over as the most significant obstacle to learning among Chris Doyle's high school students at Avon Old Farms School in Connecticut. Some rack up absences because they feel overwhelmed by the day ahead, Doyle said. A teacher for 30 years, he has seen a profound shift toward constant self-evaluation that he associates with social media, YouTube, and even school grade portals sometimes checked dozens of times a day — things students have never before had to manage.

"That kind of awareness of other people's lives, even maybe what used to be considered other people's private lives, is kind of hyper right now," Doyle said. "And I don't think that usually leaves most people feeling good, because nobody's perfect and most kids feel very imperfect."

But putting the genie back in the bottle isn't easy. In Illinois, Glenbrook High Schools District 225 experimented with limiting teens' access to their grades on a digital portal. But for every student who said the grade book caused them anxiety, there was another who said losing regular access created even more stress, said instructional innovation director Ryan Bretag.

Some students simply appear overwhelmed by non-stop social-media notifications during the school day. "It becomes an anxiety — 'well, if I don't answer them back right now I'm missing something,'" said Troy, Missouri, high school teacher Elizabeth Utterback. Freshmen are particularly susceptible, she said. Her own class tallying experiment netted 80 notifications among 20 students in less than 30 minutes.

"I definitely feel stress with online profiles, social media, to keep up, maintain my profiles and stuff," said Emily Mogavero, a 17-year-old student in Buffalo, New York. "It kind of worries me that I'm on my phone so much." Mogavero said she sometimes puts her phone out of reach or powers it down so she doesn't hear notifications.

Teaching limits at an earlier age might help. Deirdre Birmingham of Montclair, New Jersey, signed onto a campaign called "Wait Until Eighth" because she didn't think her video game-loving 10-year-old son was ready to manage a smartphone's pull.

The idea, which got its start in Texas two years ago, is to lessen the peer pressure of being the only kid without a phone by enlisting parents of classmates to agree to hold off until at least eighth grade. □



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'Last Black Man in San Francisco' a soulful lament

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

"The Last Black Man in San Francisco" is deeply, even spiritually, connected to its home city, but Joe Talbot's film resides in such a dreamy, plaintive register that it feels like a broader lament for the displaced. It's an unrequited love story for an out-of-reach America.

Jimmie Fails (the actor shares his character's

name) is a nursing-home attendant who pines for the house he grew up in: a gorgeous, ornately decorated Victorian in the Fillmore district. Once a bastion of African American culture, the "Harlem of the West," the neighborhood is now high-priced and gentrified. Jimmie's old home, which he maintains his grandfather built, would run him \$4 million. But just because the house is inac-



This photo provided by A24 shows Danny Glover, left, starring as Grandpa Allen and Jonathan Majors, right, as Montgomery Allen in "The Last Black Man in San Francisco", an A24 release.

Associated Press

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PH	MON-FRI 4:15 6:50 9:25
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CXC

MON-THU 5:45 8:20
FRI 5:45 8:20 10:55
SAT 3:10 5:45 8:20 10:55
SUN 3:10 5:45 8:20

PBP

MON-THU 5:00 7:30
FRI 5:00 7:30 10:00
SAT 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
SUN 2:30 5:00 7:30

NEW THIS WEEK!

PETS 2
PATTON OSWALT | KEVIN HART
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 4:10 6:15 8:20
FRI 4:10 6:15 8:20 10:25	
SAT 2:05 4:10 6:15 8:20 10:25	
SUN 2:05 4:10 6:15 8:20	

PBP

MON-THU 4:40 6:40 8:40
FRI 4:40 6:40 8:40 10:40
SAT 2:40 4:40 6:40 8:40 10:40
SUN 2:40 4:40 6:40 8:40

GODZILLA KING OF MONSTERS
VERA FARMIGA | MILLIE BOBBY BROWN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 4:50 7:40
FRI 4:50 7:40 10:30	
SAT 2:00 4:50 7:40 10:30	
SUN 2:00 4:50 7:40	

PBP

MON-FRI 6:20 9:10
SAT-SUN 12:45 3:30 6:20 9:10

VIP

MON-THU & SUN 8:00
FRI-SAT 8:00 10:50

JOHN 3 WICK PART 2
KEANU REEVES | HALLE BERRY
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 5:35 8:30
FRI 5:35 8:30 11:00	
SAT 2:40 5:35 8:30 11:00	
SUN 2:40 5:35 8:30	

PBP

MON-SUN 6:30 9:20

Aladdin
WILL SMITH | MENA MASSOUD
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 5:50 8:40
FRI 5:50 8:40 11:30	
SAT 3:00 5:50 8:40 11:30	
SUN 3:00 5:50 8:40	

VIP

MON-FRI 3:45
SAT-SUN 1:00 3:45

MA
OCTAVIA SPENCER | DIANA SILVER
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-THU 4:55 7:15 9:35
FRI 4:55 7:15 9:35 11:55	
SAT 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35 11:55	
SUN 2:35 4:55 7:15 9:35	

PBP

PIKACHU
RYAN REYNOLDS | JUSTICE SMITH
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-FRI 5:40
SAT 1:00 3:20 5:40	

PBP

HUSTLE
ANNE HATHAWAY | REBEL WILSON
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-FRI 4:40 6:55
SAT-SUN 2:25 4:40 6:55	

PBP

ROCKETMAN
TARON EGERTON | JAMIE BELL
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH	MON-FRI 9:10
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cessible to Jimmie, doesn't mean he doesn't still love it. He and his friend, Montgomery (Jonathan Majors), a playwright and artist who works at a fish market, sneak back to touch up the painting and check on the plants. These peculiar acts of devotion long ago grew tiresome for the current residents, a white couple who pelt Jimmie and Mont with groceries. When they later move, Jimmie sees an opportunity to reclaim his childhood home, and with it, his family and his city.

That's only the framework to "The Last Black Man in San Francisco," which Talbot, a fifth-generation San Franciscan, wrote with Rob Richert from a story co-authored by Fails. It's as much a meditation as it is a movie, one that's evidently been welling up inside Talbot (making his feature film directing debut) and Fails since they were teens. The well-documented demographic changes of the Bay Area have been fodder for movies before. But where last year's "Blindspot-

ting" was raw and electric with ripped-from-the-headlines urgency, "The Last Black Man in San Francisco" is pensive and poetic, verging almost on magical realism. It's a beautiful film, sometime almost too much so. But it's also aware of its own sentimentality, and achieves its most stirring crescendos when it turns inward, questioning Jimmie's nostalgia. This is an intensely melancholy movie that digs deep into the passions and paradoxes of a vanishing black America. □

Beach Boys' Brian Wilson delays tour over mental health



In a Aug. 20, 2016 file photo, Brian Wilson performs at Elmwood Park Amphitheater in Roanoke, Va.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Beach Boys singer Brian Wilson has postponed his June tour over mental health con-

cerns. Wilson, 76, said in a statement Thursday that he postponed the Pet Sounds and

Greatest Hits Live tour after a recent surgery caused him to feel "mentally insecure." The singer says he's dealt with mental illness for decades and it's become "unbearable" at times. He had three successful surgeries on his back in the past year, but the latest one made him feel "strange" and turned "pretty scary." Wilson says he was recording and rehearsing with the intentions of touring. But his mental health issues returned, and he says he struggled with "stuff in my head and saying things I don't mean and I don't know why." Wilson plans to work with his doctors, rest and recover. □

Julia Roberts, Spike Lee toast Denzel Washington at event

By LINDSEY BAHR

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Denzel Washington was the man of the hour Thursday night with everyone from Julia Roberts to Spike Lee turning out to celebrate him as this year's recipient of the AFI Life Achievement Award. But when he finally took the stage to accept the honor he did something unexpected: At his own award ceremony, Washington turned the spotlight away from himself and gave his wife of 40 years, Pauletta Washington, her own standing ovation.

The crowd of multigenerational Hollywood A-listers, from Michael B. Jordan and Mahershala Ali to Cicely Tyson and Morgan Freeman, readily obliged.

"I would not be alive without Pauletta Washington," Washington said. "I wouldn't survive."

It's a difficult task to have a moment stand out in an evening that included a surprise Beyoncé appearance (there briefly to present an honor to director Melina Matsoukas) and an earth shattering rendition of Sam Cooke's "A Change Is Gonna Come" by Jennifer Hudson that brought



Actor Denzel Washington addresses the audience during the 47th AFI Life Achievement Award ceremony honoring him at the Dolby Theatre, Thursday, June 6, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Washington to his feet, but he managed to do it.

As Roberts, Tyson and others attested throughout the evening, two-time Academy Award-winner Denzel Washington is a family man first. Seated alongside Pauletta Washington, his son Malcolm Washington, Lee, Tyson and directors Carl Franklin and Ed Zwick, the 64-year-old was for two

hours taken on an emotional tour through his storied career in Hollywood — from eager newcomer to movie star to acclaimed director — by those who were by his side.

"We're all here because we love Denzel," said Lee, who has directed Washington in four movies ("Mo' Better Blues," "He Got Game," "Malcolm X" and "Inside

Man"). "Denzel represents our black manhood."

Lee, the final speaker of the evening, likened Washington to other "G.O.A.Ts" (greatest of all time) like Michael Jordan, Ella Fitzgerald and Miles Davis.

"That's the rarefied air that Denzel Washington lives and breathes in," Lee said. Lee also said that, although he might be biased, "Mal-

colm X is the greatest performance ever committed to celluloid."

And others were just as effusive. Roberts recalled that working with him on "The Pelican Brief" was like "working with the Beatles." He is, as Jamie Foxx put it, "someone who is just better than everybody else ... when it comes to acting!"

"Even Leonardo DiCaprio is like, 'I am really frightened of Denzel,'" Foxx added.

The American Film Institute brought out a host of the next generation's brightest talents to talk about Washington's impact on them, too.

"Mr. Washington's arrival was a seismic moment for my generation. You paved the way," Ali said. "Your influence, your reach transcends race without ever denying it."

Michael B. Jordan said he was inspired by the story that while filming "Glory," Washington kept wearing his fake scars in a scene where he had his shirt on. Jordan employed the same technique for his "Black Panther" character. Chadwick Boseman even went so far as to say, "There is no 'Black Panther' without Denzel Washington." □

The cast of Broadway's 'Ain't Too Proud' very proud of show

By JOHN CARUCCI

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For Jeremy Pope, the idea of playing one of The Temptations was a daunting proposition. Thankfully, he got some advice and help from an original Temptation.

During rehearsals for the jukebox musical "Ain't Too Proud — The Life and Times of the Temptations," Otis Williams, the last original member, arrived to give his support.

"He just gave me the biggest hug and he said, 'You got it. You got it.' And he invited us to his hotel room, and we sat there for I think five hours and we just, he just told stories and talked," Pope said.

While doing his research, which included listening to the band's entire catalog



This image released by DKC O&M Co. shows from left to right, Ephraim Sykes, Jawan M. Jackson, Jeremy Pope, Derrick Baskin and James Harkness in a scene from "Ain't Too Proud — The Life and Times of the Temptations."

Associated Press

and speaking to civil rights activist U.S. Rep. John Lewis, Pope made an important connection.

"I think one thing that I pay attention to now listening

to the music is you can hear the struggle and the pain behind their voices and why they're singing the songs the way they are singing. And if you go back

to a marker and go, what was happening in that year? You'll go, 'Oh, civil rights. Oh, segregation.'"

"Ain't Too Proud," which goes into Sunday's Tony Awards with 12 nominations, charts the rise, sacrifices and challenges facing the 1960s group that sang "Baby Love" and "My Girl." Audiences have noted its echoes with Black Lives Matter and racial tensions today.

Pope, who plays group member Eddie Kendricks, marvels at the fact that The Temptations were becoming icons "in a time where they were unsure of their own safety."

For actor Ephraim Sykes, who plays David Ruffin, the reaction has also been deeply personal. One audience member came up

after a show to tell Sykes that he would play "My Girl" when his daughter was born.

"This man cried in front of me, thinking about how much that song meant to him and that we brought it back for him in a real way," Sykes said.

Ruffin's grandson thanked the actors for teaching audiences "not just the Temptations' story but the story of our country."

Working on the show, Derrick Baskin, who plays Williams, learned the many stories behind the beautiful notes.

"Knowing their stories more it helps us to actually appreciate what they put into the music spiritually and emotionally that I think audiences actually gravitate toward," Baskin said. □

Carrie Underwood wins at CMT Awards, Tanya Tucker performs

By MESFIN FEKADU

Carrie Underwood extended her run as the most decorated act in the history of the CMT Music Awards with her 20th win Wednesday night.

Underwood won two prizes at the fan-voted show, including video of the year for "Cry Pretty" and female video of the year for "Love Wins."

"Fans, thank you so much. I saw you guys doing the Twitter parties and getting together and doing your thing and voting," she said. "None of us would be able to do any of what we do if not for you guys. You guys put us here. You guys keep us going. You guys let us live out our dreams."

When she won the first televised award of the night, Underwood acknowledged her husband's birthday (she is married to former hockey player Mike Fisher, who sat in the audience).

"It is my husband's birthday today — look what they



Carrie Underwood arrives at the CMT Music Awards on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

got you," she said.

The Grammy-winning country star also performed at the show honoring the year's best country music videos, which took place at the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tennessee.

Thomas Rhett, Little Big

Town and Trombone Shorty kicked off the event with a performance of "Don't Threaten Me With a Good Time." More collaborative performances followed: Brett Young sang "Here Tonight" with Boyz II Men, even blending in some of the R&B

group's "Water Runs Dry" for the performance. Sheryl Crow and Maren Morris teamed up onstage, while Tanya Tucker — whose new album will be produced by Brandi Carlile — sang "Delta Dawn" with the Grammy-winning Americana singer,

Martina McBride, Trisha Yearwood, Lauren Alaina and more acts.

Little Big Town, who also performed and returned for a second year as hosts of the show, talked about the lack of female singers on country radio ahead of the strong female performance. On this week's Billboard country airplay chart — which tracks radio airplay — only 10 of the 60 slots belong to women or songs co-starring a woman. "Back in December it was even worse — there were none," Little Big Town's Karen Fairchild said. "Here's my question, ladies in the house: 'What do we have to do to get some airplay around here?'"

Little Big Town told jokes at the top of the show and even sang some of "Old Town Road," the No. 1 country-rap hit from newcomer Lil Nas X that was booted from the Billboard country songs chart when the tune was deemed not country enough. □

With posthumous release, Avicii goes out on top

By MARK KENNEDY

Associated Press

Avicii, "TIM" (Universal)

The first words from the first single of Avicii's latest album are a gut-punch: "Can you hear me? SOS." Not long after he wrote the lyric, the Swedish DJ-producer was dead. The hardest part is that his posthumous album, "TIM," is a farewell wave from an artist who clearly was at the top of his game. Avicii, whose real name was Tim Bergling, died in Oman last year at 28. He left behind a dozen excellent songs that show he had grown into a pop music powerhouse, attracting the likes of Imagine Dragons and Coldplay's Chris Martin as guests.

Days before leaving for Oman, he sent new music to his team, outlining what songs he wanted on his forthcoming album. No two are the same.

He explores Indian sounds ("Tough Love"), hip-hop and glam ("Excuse Me Mr Sir"),



In this Aug. 30, 2013, file photo, Swedish DJ, remixer and record producer Avicii poses for a portrait in New York.

Associated Press

does a little Troye Sivan-like frank intimacy ("Freak"), uses blissed-out harmonies ("Peace of Mind") and tropical vibes ("Bad Reputation"). Joe Janiak offers vocals on two tracks, Bonn on another pair and the

Swedish production team Vargas & Lagola collaborated on three songs. Avicii adds ominous strings with Imagine Dragons to create the near-operatic "Heart Upon My Sleeve." His collaboration with Martin

on "Heaven" may remind you of the Coldplay man's work on the smash hit "Something Like This" with The Chainsmokers. It may even be better.

"TIM" is the culmination of Avicii's song-based flair

that incorporates elements outside EDM. Unlike other DJs, his songs aren't rushed. He lets them breathe. The predictable tricks his rivals use are absent here. The songs feel organic, not processed. Lyrically, it's tempting to find darkness and, sure, it's there. "Can I get a little peace?" go the lyrics on one song. "Down upon my knees," go another. "I still feel broken."

But "TIM" is actually optimistic in tone. "All the breath in your lungs/Is stronger than the tears in your eyes," the lyrics go on "Hold the Line." And despite fighting with a lover in "Tough Love," it concludes: "There's no place I'd rather be than in your arms."

Even "SOS" — which reunites Avicii with Aloe Blacc, who sang on Avicii's biggest hit, 2013's "Wake Me Up" — has hope: "I can feel your love pulling me up from the underground." There is the power of love all over "TIM." Let that be his legacy. □



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